I have been doing lots of in depth cleaning the last few weeks in moving out of the Delaware County Office and reorganizing my Campus office. I want to share an intriguing concept I found in some notes from a session by Farrah Gray. The title of the session was “Reallionaire: Get Real, Get Rich”. We all have probably thought about, or at least imagined, what we would do if we had a million dollars. But what about becoming rich from the inside out – becoming a reallionaire?

Here are some ideas she shared:

We need to remember that “comfort is the energy of achievement”. Don’t let anyone crush your dreams. If you can’t change the people around you, change yourself. Ask yourself the question: “Why not me?”

Find your area of excellence. What have you determined to be the purpose for your life? What comes easy to you, but harder to others? What would you do for years and years and not get paid? How can you be of service and pay forward or give back? Embrace the right “light” in your life. Get back to basics. Do the little things that make you happy and fulfilled. Be rich from the inside out Be a reallionaire!!

You know, there are three types of people: those who make things happen, those who watch what is happening, and those who ask what is happening. Make the most of your life. You only have one to live.
Dear Southwest Region Educators and Staff:

Thanks for all you have done to make a difference in the lives of countless clientele this summer! What a collective impact you have had.

I am hearing that much fall programming has already begun. I am looking forward to spending this week in Montana at the NEAFCS Annual Meeting to support several of our Educators who are giving presentations or receiving awards. We hear we may encounter some snow while we are there! I will be spending the following weekend with friends who live in Billings. They have planned a whirlwind site seeing tour of Yellowstone and a night at their mountain cabin. But I will return in time to join our ANR Educators at the Farm Science Review.

While I am gone, Ken Martin will be doing my approvals. If you have any questions or issues come up, please contact Cindy Torppa (419-560-1196), NW Regional Director. Carol Bottoms (419-373-4922) or Patty Corfman (614-688-8330) may also be able to help you. I am told that it is often not possible to use cell phones or email when in the mountains.

Special Reminders:

CEDs  Be sure to sign up for your county’s autumn visit and the legislative assignments you want by contacting Carol Bottoms by September 19.  There will be a CED conference on Oct. 19. Details coming soon.

New Educators are encouraged to attend the New Educators Conference being sponsored by Roger Rennekamp on Oct. 12-14. I can take 2-3 people with me. Just give me a call.

Connect and Collaborate Grants - Be sure to note the Email from Roger Rennekamp on 9/8 that has details on the new “Connect and Collaborate Grants”. These combine the OSU CARES grants and innovative grants offered in the past. Nearly $1 million dollars is available and all Extension employees are eligible to receive funding. Don’t miss this opportunity!

Central State Update - We have learned that CSU Extension will be posting the following positions in the near future:

- Hamilton and Butler County  ANR Agent
- Montgomery County  4-H Agent and EFNEP
- Greene County  4-H Agent
- Lucas County  FCS/Nutrition Agent
- Franklin County  FCS/Nutrition Agent
- Cuyahoga County  FCS/Nutrition Agent

Being Prepared Conference  On November 3, all Southwest Region Educators and staff are invited to attend an all day workshop on mental health first aid. It will be held at the CSU branch in Dayton. Details are in final preparation and will be sent soon.

October 17 – 18  TERSSA Conference

If better is possible, good is not good enough. If the best is possible, better is not good enough. Why spend precious time on good things or better things when you can go for the best?

Be well,
Barbara
Happy August Birthdays…

- September 2    Aaron Fowler, Program Coordinator, Greene County
- September 10  Christy Millhouse, Educator/Director, Preble County
- September 17  Diane May, Program Assistant, Union County
- September 21  Kim Hoppes, Office Associate, Fayette County
- September 25  Carol Wagner, Office Associate, Hardin County
- September 26  Genesis Hawker, Program Coordinator, Butler County
- September 29  Julie Crook, Program Coordinator, Hamilton County
- September 30  Marcia Hatcher, Program Assistant, Champaign County

Director’s Drop-In

Ohio is one of a handful of states that offers a promotion “ladder” for non-faculty educators. But, as you know, the process for securing a promotion involves the preparation of an academic dossier similar to one submitted by academic faculty across campus. The dossier is then reviewed by a committee of peers, who make a recommendation about whether a promotion is merited. While the preparation of an academic dossier is required for academic faculty, we are not required to use the same process for the promotion of administrative/professional educators. Consequently, I have appointed a work group to review the process by which we advance non-faculty educators through the four ranks (Educator I, Educator II, Educator III, and Educator IV).

I have challenged the committee to utilize “out-of-the-box” thinking that results in transformational change to the educator promotion process. Specifically, I have asked the group to think about whether preparation of an academic dossier and a peer review process are necessary elements of the process. If not, might promotion be more closely tied to performance of key job duties as assessed by our existing annual performance review process? Treva Williams and Nate Arnett have agreed to co-chair this work group. Other members of the group are Mary Beth Albright, Eric Barrett, Kate Feldhues, Melinda Hill, Joe Lucente, Amanda Osborne, and Ted Wiseman. I know that each of these individuals will be interested in hearing your thoughts regarding this important organizational activity.

Barb Brahm’s Schedule

- September 12  NEAFCS
- September 13  NEAFCS
- September 14  NEAFCS
- September 15  NEAFCS

Support Staff – Have You Registered?
Registration closes on this Friday . .

The registration is now open for the National TERSSA (Support Staff) Conference. The cost of registration for this two-day program is $195 ($145 for TERSSA members). Lodging is limited at Westin Great Southern Hotel, so please book your room now. • Registration • Agenda • Lodging
This month marks my 14th year with OSU Extension. I was hired in 2002 as a Program Assistant for 4-H and FCS; several years ago I became the Program Coordinator for FCS.

I graduated from Ohio State in 1982 with a BS in Family Relations and Human Development. After college I married my husband, who is a graduate of ATI in Wooster. I helped on my husband’s family farm; we grain farmed and had poultry layer houses. In addition, I was a stay at home mom for fourteen years until our youngest began first grade. I then went to work at our local school district as a Preschool Teacher. I taught preschool for six years. I love going back into the preschool room for Vision In Preschool Screenings.

My husband, Jerry, and I no longer farm. He is the Transportation Supervisory for our local school district. We have four children, Amanda (Spanish Teacher), Jason (HVAC), Ben (Crown Control) and Mark (Civil Engineer) – three graduated from the University of Dayton and one attended HVAC School. We have been blessed with three grandsons, who are the light of our lives.

In my spare time, I enjoy getting together with family, reading and babysitting the grandkids.
The **Connect and Collaborate Grants** program was announced in this morning’s onCampus Today. OSU Extension will help fund projects that involve our personnel as key partners in programs that address the new OSU Extension impact areas. This will be a great opportunity for you to submit an application, or to work collaboratively with colleagues on the Columbus or regional campuses to plan, implement or expand a program related to these six impact areas. OSU Extension teams submitting proposals need to include both campus and field based colleagues.

This grants program is replacing the OSU CARES and Innovative Grants OSU Extension awarded in the past. The application process is simpler than for those programs with just a two page concept proposal required. If your concept proposal is selected you will receive additional coaching and mentoring to develop your plan. You may apply for up to $100,000 through this program.

If you would like to discuss your proposal ideas, Ken Martin and Karen Bruns have scheduled the following times for conference calls concerning proposals from Extension teams. You are also encouraged to participate in the University-wide Connect and Collaborate information session on September 14 from 9-10 in the Research Commons on the 3rd floor of the Library.

**Extension Conference call number 877-820-7831  Access Code 890250**
September 16th 3:30 to 4:30  
September 23rd 10:00 to 11:00

See [http://oaa.osu.edu/ccgrants](http://oaa.osu.edu/ccgrants) and the attached FAQ for more details. I encourage you to work with your colleagues to submit a proposal for the October 3 submission due date. An additional Connect and Collaborate funding cycle may occur in January.