Annual Conference RFP Deadline
Extended . . .

The deadline to submit your “Innovation in Action” poster or session proposal for this year’s Annual Conference has been extended to **Monday, October 19**. More details will be coming soon. You can download the Request for Proposals instructions located on the OSU Extension Annual Conference website (http://go.osu.edu/2015EAC).

Have questions? Contact Steve Brady at brady.111@osu.edu or Patty House at house.18@osu.edu, Concurrent Sessions and Posters Committee co-chairs.
Happy October

Birthdays ...

- October 8  Ruby Randolph – Program Assistant, Sandusky County
- October 10  Cindy Dininger – Office Associate, Ashland County
- October 12  Chris Comden – Office Assistant, Defiance County
- October 15  Deb Knapke – Office Associate, Van Wert County
- October 25  Cheryl Barber Spires – Program Specialist, Northwest Region

Congratulations . . .

Karen Bruns, leader of OSU CARES and recently retired Assistant Director of OSU Extension, received the Distinguished Service Ruby Award at the ESP National Meeting last week in Couer d’Alene, Idaho. The Ruby Award is the most prestigious award offered by ESP.

Other ESP National Conference recognition goes to:
  - Susan Crowell, Farm and Dairy who received the National Friend of Extension Award.

Last week, Clarence Cunningham, was recognized at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland, when he was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame. Many of you had interactions with Clarence over his distinguished career in Extension and through his many volunteer roles with 4-H since his retirement. Personal congratulations can be sent to Dr. Clarence Cunningham, 3480 Scioto Run Road, Hilliard, OH 43026

Rehired Retirees (Source: Amy Burns) . . .

Employees of Ohio State who are retired through OPERS and eligible to participate in OPERS health care should pay special attention to OPERS communications regarding 2016 health care open enrollment. OPERS is making changes to how its retirees will receive health care benefits in 2016. For some OPERS retirees, the cost of their OPERS medical coverage may increase if they remain employed by an OPERS employer in 2016. The OPERS health benefit changes are effective January 1, 2016, and retirees have to make their OPERS benefit selections by October 31, 2015. OPERS offers in-person and online seminars for retirees. See https://www.opers.org for details.

November 5 HRA Training . . .

HRA training is being offered on Thursday, November 5, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon in the Wood County Extension Office Meeting Room. This training is required for the Northwest Region County Extension Directors but is open to others who are interested in the training. There is no cost for this meeting, but because space is limited, we are requesting registration. Registration deadline is October 30. CED's: Please notify Carol at bottoms.6@osu.edu if you are able to participate.

Cindy Torppa’s Schedule for October 12 – 16

Monday:  Ashland County
Tuesday:  FCS Conference
Wednesday:  Erie County
Thursday:  Erie Basin Mtg.
Friday:  Henry County
Excellence in Extension Nomination Deadline Extended to October 15

This annual award recognizes a superior Extension educator; based on excellence in teaching, research and service. This is Ohio Extension’s highest honor! Any Extension employee who is a current member of Epsilon Sigma Phi is eligible. The award can be received one time only. The award includes a cash award of $1,000 plus the addition of $1,000 to the base salary. A list of previous winners is at https://osu.box.com/s/zh95xh8k1txcd7vjiyulmnfa4m06b47s. Contact Laryssa Hook (hook.262osu.edu) for more information.

2015 Steve D. Ruhl County Agriculture Agent Award Nomination Deadline October 20

This award, established in 2007 was named in memorial for Steve Ruhl, former Morrow County Extension Educator, ANR, and Extension Director. For 25 years, Steve’s work epitomized the best traditions of the “County Agricultural Agent” as depicted in the Norman Rockwell print (1948). Each year, award recipients are nominated by their peers, applications are submitted and then chosen by a selection committee consisting of the OSU Extension AD for ANR, the current JCEP ANR President and Vice President, an ANR/EERA leader from each region, and at least one past award recipient.

Recipients must be a current county ANR educator, have a minimum of 10 years of county Extension experience, and be a current paid member of OAEP and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Extension programs developed by the recipient could represent animal sciences, agronomy, horticulture, farm management, entomology, leadership or any other related area where the educator has demonstrated proven success.

Nominations are due by 1:00 PM on October 20. Submit a completed nomination form to Teresa Funk at funk.67@osu.edu or FAX to 614.292.4077.
2015 Excellence in 4-H Award Nomination Due October 21 . . .

Once again it is time to make nominations for the Excellence in 4-H Award. This award honors superior accomplishments by an Extension Educator in developing dynamic, innovative, broad-based 4-H educational programs. The award, funded through the Charles W. Lifer Excellence in 4-H Fund, is dedicated to the recognition of outstanding professionals who serve as examples in setting standards of excellence in ten major areas of the County 4-H program.

A peer may nominate any Ohio State University Extension Educator who provides leadership to 4-H programs. Nomination forms are due to Lisa Jinks by Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at jinks.2@osu.edu. Note: Individuals who have completed an application in the past three years will be considered for the award again this year and will just need to update their profile for 2015. Please nominate one or more individuals, whom you think are deserving of this recognition.

Excellence in CD Award Nomination Due November 1 . . .

It is time to make nominations for the Raymond A. Schindler Excellence in Community Development Extension Award, newly named this year. Ray was one of the first Extension regional CD specialists who helped shape the Extension CD profession we know today. His contributions, from the earliest stages of the program area (early 1960s) to the present day as faculty emeritus, have been far reaching and impactful.

This $1,000 cash award recognizes a CD Extension professional for significant programmatic strengths, major contributions and innovative approaches achieved over the course of their Extension career. Submission deadline for nominations is November 1. The award will be presented during the OSU Extension Annual Conference.

• Complete information about the award, including past recipients

Please direct any questions to Brian Raison (raison.1@osu.edu). Thank you.
Business Office Items . . .

If you haven’t visited the Business Office website in a while at http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu, there are some new items for your review.

- PayPal issues with updated “chip” PCards
- Travel Policy Changes 10/1/15

Also, in regard to today’s Newslink message from Ric Hunter, there is some mention of the OSU Amazon Business Account. Please stay tuned for more information from our Business Office as details are worked through on how we implement this for our College.

Attention Support Staff – CES Membership Deadline
(Source: Linda Good) . . .

Just a reminder of the CES membership deadline of October 15. If you have not done so, please consider once again joining YOUR Professional Extension Association –CES. If you know of fellow support staff in your office or surrounding counties that are not CES members, please encourage them to join. It’s a great way to receive professional development, make network connections, and have a voice for support staff with the Administration.

Also, consider joining TERSSA – The Extension Research and Support Staff Association – YOUR National Professional Extension Association. 2016 will be an exciting year for TERSSA. The TERSSA National Conference will be held in Columbus. If you have been unable to experience a national conference, now is your opportunity! TERSSA annual dues are a very affordable $10.00. Please visit the following link to learn more about TERSSA and the upcoming 2016 TERSSA Conference. Thanks for Vickie Snyder for creating the presentation found at http://presenter.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/snyder.252/TERSSA_2016_-_20150904__114808_24.html

The CES (and TERSSA) membership information can be found at http://extension.osu.edu/about/chi-epsilon-sigma/ces-membership

State of the College Address . . .

The state of the college is strong! Here all the news in the Dean’s State of the College address at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lXMgyLk_7_E