

eEnterprise

Message from OEAFCs President

Greetings All! As promised in the last article, thoughts on —“**public value**”. Cooperative Extension Service **program participants benefit** from our efforts, **and our programs “create public value” when they benefit other community sectors!** How we convey the public value of Extension programs to others in a meaningful way is particularly important with decision makers. Let’s learn about this AND master it! A related training opportunity is being secured to sharpen our skills in understanding benefits of perceived public value and how to shape and foster an increase in public value for our work. *I had the opportunity to attend a one-hour session by the presenter at Galaxy, and found the information straight forward and easy to follow.* Earning high regard can be a challenge for programs where success is not often measured in dollars and figures! I contacted District Directors to request they support OCES funding this training; they carried the request to Dr. Trapp, who expressed willingness to pay for on-line training! (Cost \$100 per person when purchased individually or \$500 per institution).

Check calendars and if possible, hold **Tuesday, March 3 and Thursday, March 5, 2009**, from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** Central Time for training (four hours total). Watch for an announcement, likely from campus, and follow enrollment instructions. These are scheduled training dates (University of Minnesota Extension) unless Oklahoma has so much interest in the training that we need to make separate arrangements. Four hours is a minimal cost. When conveying public value skills are incorporated over time, ongoing successfully funded programs and projects may be one result, and our time will have been a platinum investment! The training content & resources also prepare us to train others, if we desire (teach leadership groups, volunteer organizations, etc., skills to assist them in conveying public value of their efforts too!) *I wish each of you the best possible holidays! God Bless!*



~Recia Garcia

Attendance for “Effective Meeting Leadership Training” sponsored by OEAFCs surpassed expectations!

In April 2008, incoming President, Recia Garcia, polled the OEAFCs Board to determine their level of support for an idea to write grants pursuing funding for parliamentary procedure training. With board approval, six grants were prepared and submitted, with all six funded—five at the maximum level as requested. Through promotional efforts by all OEAFCs members, collaboration of OHCE Outreach Editor, advance preparation in ordering materials and on-site facilitation provided by OEAFCs members in four districts, the trainings reached **over 300** Extension professionals and community leaders!! Thanks to all our efforts, we and those we work with, are better prepared leaders!



Spotlight on Our Retirees

Two of our retirees were asked to share with us advice, insights, favorite memories, what they are doing with all their “free” time, or whatever they would like to share. Thanks Jo Ann and Betty for sharing!

Jo Ann Brannan...Retirement is GREAT

I thought I had achieved my learning curve before I joined the Cooperative Extension Service – only to find out shortly that I was in for a great surprise. This Extension Service provided many new learning experiences that I probably could not had gained if I had chosen another profession.

Continuing education, life-long learning, and community involvement have always been a part of me and have continued in my retirement. Now, I can be selective of my involvement and have controlled of my schedule. I find that keeping up on computer knowledge, latest

investment strategies, health information, and involvement in my church, and co-managing the family farm keeps me busy. Organizations that I am involved in are: Retired Educators, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, OHCE Bits and Bytes, TRIAD, and Bible study. Live theater productions whether they are Community Theater or Broadway production provides entertainment and relaxation for me.

This year I attended AAFCS (received recognition as a fifty-year member) and the NEAFCS meeting. I always have the traveling bug.



Betty Jean Brannan...Plan for Retirement

After a career of 36 years in Home Economics/Family and Consumer Sciences as a secondary teacher, university professor, Cooperative Extension county and state faculty member and administrator, I retired in Chickasha, my hometown. Working with students and clientele to develop skills and with organizations to develop family and community projects and programs were challenging and enjoyable.

Retirement is enjoyable —particularly, opportunity to be selective on activities and organizations in which to be involved.

Through several professional organizations, including OAFCS/AAFCS and OEAFCS/NEAFCS, I continue to keep up with trends and developments in the profession.

Local activities have provided opportunities to work with community organizations—Chickasha Public Library and Friends of the Library, Grady County Historical Society Board, Altrusa Club, Grady County

Mineral and Surface Owners Board, Grady County OHCE, programs, activities of OSU County Extension Office, and my church. Serving as a consumer representative on the Home Health Advisory Board of the OK State Department of Health and a member of the Older Women’s Initiative of the OK Department of Human Services have provided opportunity to learn more about these Oklahoma State agencies.

When I retired, computers were being introduced into Extension. How technology has changed!!!! I enjoy learning to use the computer and other technology.

Programs concerned with older citizens, volunteer leadership, education, community development and public policy are of particular interest to me.

My advice—PLAN for retirement, and ENJOY it when it comes.



Upcoming OEAFCs Officer Elections

by Brenda Sheik
Nomination Committee Chair

Serving as an OEAFCs officer and on the OEAFCs Board of Directors is an opportunity to grow professionally, become better acquainted with co-workers from across the state and provide service to our association. The rewards and potential for growth far outweigh the costs of time and energy!

Elections will be held for the following OEAFCs offices during the 2009 Annual Meeting:

- President-Elect
- Treasurer-Elect
- Vice-President for Professional Development
- Vice-President for Awards and Recognition
- Northwest District Director
- Southwest District Director

Article V, Section 2 of the OEAFCs Constitution provides the following officer qualifications. (**Emphasis added.**)

- A. Officers shall be elected from the active membership of the association.

- B. The **elected officers** of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and director must be:
1. Members of the Association for **three consecutive years.**
 2. **Be in attendance** at the Annual State Meeting at the time votes are cast for election.

The **president** shall be **selected from any of the past elected officers** of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Director. The candidate **should meet the qualifications of the other officers** as above and be an Association **member for five years**

If you meet the above qualifications, and have the desire and ability to serve as an officer, please consider putting your name forward as a candidate. In addition, please consider nominating those colleagues you believe would do an excellent job in one of the above mentioned positions. **Please channel all suggestions through your OEAFCs District Director.**

The duties of each officer are posted on the OEAFCs website at fcs.okstate.edu/oeafcs/

Southwest District

By Brenda Medlock, SW District Director

The Southwest District held their holiday in-service on November 21st in Duncan. Included in the in-service was a tour to the Sheep Stop and Dairy in Comanche owned by OHCE member Kim McGarr .

Eighteen educators were in attendance at the Holiday In-service and at this time we have two new members- Lisa Taylor in Jefferson County and Nicole Moore in Cleveland County.

The Southwest District will be having one member retire next February and that is Maretta Toler in Comanche County.

***Congratulations Maretta Toler
on your Retirement!***

Northeast District

By Charlotte Richert, NE District Director

We have 20 members from the Northeast District: 12 OEAFCs members and 8 Duel memberships. We have one new member, Jessica Riffin.

The Northeast District celebrated the Christmas season with an educational in-service focused on improving our technological skills. Held at the Zarrow West Regional Library in Tulsa, members learned about eXtension and its usefulness to our programming needs; WIKI sites and potential functions for us; and research being done in the CHES with faculty from OSU-Tulsa. Discussion and planning for association scholarship sponsors and award applications created a packed day.

Door prizes and good food rounded out a full day for the 26 participants.

2008-2009 OEAFCs Officers

President—Recia Garcia
Vice President Public Affairs—Kathy Enyart
Vice President Professional Development—Radonna Sawatzky
Vice President for Member Resources—Cindy Griffith
Vice-President for Awards & Recognition—Susan Moffat
Secretary—Lori Black
Secretary-Elect—Susan Routh
Treasurer—Dana Baldwin
Northeast District Director—Charlotte Richert
Northwest District Director—Jean Bailey
Southeast District Director—Cindy Clampet
Southwest District Director—Brenda Medlock
Past President & Parliamentarian—Brenda Sheik
Chaplain—Barbara Denney
Historian—Chellee Burson
Advisor—Dr. Glenn Muske



Extension
Living Well Week
March 8-14, 2009

*"Raising Kids, Eating Right,
Spending Smart, Living Well"*

Living Well Mini-Grants

Five (5) grants of \$500 each will be awarded to groups or individuals. The funds must be used for the promotion of Living Well through a creative approach in marketing our profession including development and/or production of marketing materials, purchasing media time or advertising, etc. but may not be used for travel or related expenses. 50% of grant will be paid at time project is approved. Remaining grant funds will be paid when report of results and expense summary is completed. A one page report with results and expense summary plus examples or pictures of materials should be sent to the Chair of the Public Affairs External Marketing subcommittee. The Living Well Mini-Grant form can be found on the NEAFCS Website. It must be postmarked by April 1st.

Member Resources

By Cindy Griffith
Vice President for Member Resources

In the near future, you have two wonderful ways to make an investment in your profession. We are paying annual membership dues at this time. I hope you will decide that this investment can provide you a higher return on your money than the stock market seems to be doing at this point.

Investments you make into your own professional development are the kind of investments that pay for themselves over and over during the

course of your career. Your professional organization provides networking and sharing opportunities. It provides scholarships and awards and provides you opportunities for service and leadership

The second opportunity for investment will come during our January state-wide in-service. It is the responsibility of the Member Resources committee to help our Association raise funds (\$500) to sponsor the Advanced 4-H FCS Scholarship. This year we will be

asking all members to make at least a \$5.00 contribution toward this scholarship. 100% participation means we will be very close to our goal.

This investment in an outstanding 4-H member is one way that we promote our Association and encourage one of the "brightest and best" to consider a career in Cooperative Extension.

Make your investment plans and strategies now. You are worthy of an investment in yourself!

Have you purchased an NEAFCS Brooch yet?

Don't miss out!!!

You can check it out on the NW District Extension website...oces.okstate.edu/nwdistrict
Click on the link on the bottom left

