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# ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

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## ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### Early Career Leadership Award:

**2008 Gold:** Michael Crimmins, Arizona

### Career Leadership Award:

**2008 Gold:** Barron Orr, Arizona

### Individual Program Leadership Award:

**2008 Gold:** *Private Water Well Owners Program:* James Clark, Pennsylvania

**2008 Silver:** *Mangrove Marauders:* Elizabeth Staugler, Florida

### Innovative Program Award:

**2007 Gold:** *Program for Resource Efficient Communities:* Mark Hostetler, Florida

**2008 Gold:** *The Barnegat Bay Shellfish Restoration Program:* Cara Muscio, New Jersey

**2007 Silver:** *Women Landowner Workshop Series:* Sonya Wood Maher, Dr. Kathryn Dlynn, and Dr. Brenda Allen, Alabama

**2008 Silver:** *Bobwhite Quail Conservation:* William Giuliano, Florida

**2008 Bronze:** *GPS and 4-H Program:* Angela Guepta, Gary Wyatt, Minnesota

### Outstanding Team Award:

**2007 Gold:** *Program for Resource Efficient Communities Team:* Pierce Jones, Mark Hostetler, Glenn Acomb, Michael Dukes, Hal Knowles, Mark Clark, Kathleen Ruppert, Craig Miller, Florida

**2008 Gold:** *State-wide Approach to Stormwater Team:* Suzanne Wade, Wisconsin

**2007 Silver:** *The Woods in Your Backyard Team:* Jonathan Kays, Adam Downing, Jim Finely, Joy Drohan, Maryland

**2008 Silver:** *Ties to the Land Team:* Brad Withrow-Robinson, Oregon

**2007 Bronze:** *Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weed Group:* Susan Donaldson, Jason Brand, MJ Cross, Jenny Francis, Larry Hughes, Keith Kohler, LeeAnne Mila, Dawn Rafferty, Cecilia Reed, Tamara Sasaki, Jane Schmidt, Steve Schoening, Bruce Warden, Wendy West, Rita Whitney, Nevada

**2008 Bronze:** *Yahara Waterways Team:* Mindy Habecker, Wisconsin

## EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AWARDS

### 2007 Award of Exceptional Merit:

*North American Maple Syrup Producers Manual:* Dr. Randall B. Heligmann, Dr. Melvin R Koelling, Dr. Timothy Perkins, Dr. Gary W Graham, George L. Cook, Timothy Wilmot, Brian Stowe, Mark Isselhardt, Dr. Abby VadenBerg, Larry Myott, Henry Marckres, Dr. Peter Smallidge, Dr. Brian

Chabot, Dave Chapeskie, Tom McCrumm,  
Angela Wheeler, Dr. Mariafraca Morselli, Gregory  
Rainville, George Buzzell, Ohio

### **Computerized Graphic Presentation/Slide Set:**

**2007 Gold:** *Training Environmental Stewards:*  
Tara Zimmerman, Brad Gaolach, Amy Grotta -  
Washington

**2008 Gold:** *Become a Junior Forest Steward:*  
Sanford Smith, Pennsylvania

**2007 Silver:** *Stream Bank Stabilization:* Jim Clark  
and Jack Fleckenstein, Pennsylvania

**2008 Silver:** *Common NE Florida Landscape  
Plants:* Rebecca Jodi, Florida

**2007 Bronze:** *Identification, Biology and  
Management Options for Southern Pine Bark  
Beetles:* Andrew Londo, Mississippi

### **Long Publication:**

**2007 Gold:** *After the Burn:* Yvonne C. Barkley,  
Idaho

**2008 Gold:** *Bobwhite Quail Conservation,  
Ecology and Management:* William Giuliano,  
James Selph, and Brandon Schad, Florida

**2007 Silver:** *The Woods In Your Backyard:*  
Jonathan Kays, Maryland

**2008 Silver:** *Managing Woodland Roads: A Field  
Handbook:* Steve Bowers, Oregon

**2007 Bronze:** *Invasive Weed of the Lake Tahoe  
Basin:* Susan Donaldson, Nevada

**2008 Bronze:** *Choosing the Right Plants for  
Northern Nevada's High Fire Areas:* JoAnne  
Skelly, Ed Smith, Nevada Extension

### **Mixed Materials:**

**2007 Gold:** *Wildlife CSI Unraveling the Mysteries  
of Wildlife Crop Damage:* Brian MacGowan,  
Indiana

**2008 Gold:** *Ties to the Land:* Chal Landgren,  
Clinton Bentz, Mark Green, Renee Irvin, Con  
Lynch, Susan Watkins, Brad Withrow-Robinson,  
Oregon

**2007 Silver:** *Training Environmental Stewards:*  
Tara Zimmerman, Brad Gaolach, Amy Grotta,  
Washington

**2008 Silver:** *Rain Garden Education Kit Version  
4:* Susanne Wade, Wisconsin

**2007 Bronze:** *GPS Application for Natural  
Resource Professionals:* Nathan Watermeier,  
Ohio

**2008 Bronze:** *Wood to Energy Outreach  
Program:* Martha Monroe, Florida

### **Newsletter/Series of Articles:**

**2007 Gold:** *Green Horizons:* Hank Stelzer,  
Missouri

**2008 Gold:** *Silvicultural Decisions I-XII:* Ronald  
Mahoney, Idaho

**2007 Silver:** *Gardener's Grapevine:* Maggie  
Shao, Utah

**2008 Silver:** *Marine Environment Newspaper  
Articles:* Bryan Fluech, Florida

**2007 Bronze:** *Idaho's Private Forest:* Chris  
Schnept, Ron Mahoney, Yvonne Barkley, Randy  
Brooks, Tim Prather, Idaho

**2008 Bronze:** *Florida Yards and Neighborhoods:*  
Jessica Sullivan, Florida

## **Promotional Materials:**

**2007 Gold:** *Salt Lake City Master Gardener Project:* Maggie Shao, Utah

**2008 Gold:** *BMP Workshop Mailer, Posters and Article:* John Cobourn and Julie Bradt, Nevada

**2007 Silver:** *Are Invasive Weeds Ruining Your Neighborhood?* Susan Donaldson, Nevada

**2008 Silver:** *Exploring our Environment:* Maia McGuire, Florida

**2007 Bronze:** *GPS Application for Natural Resource Professionals:* Nathan Watermeier, Ohio

**2008 Bronze:** *Quick Reference for Rescuing Pelicans:* Bryan Fluech, Florida

## **Radio:**

**2007 Gold:** *Pine Beetle Activity In Mississippi:* Andrew Londo, Mississippi

**2008 Gold:** *ReClam the Bay Interview:* Cara Muscio, New Jersey

## **Refereed Journal Article:**

**2007 Gold:** *Maple Syrup Production in Ohio and the Impact of Ohio State University Extension Programming:* Dr. Gary Graham, Dr. P. Charles Goebel, Dr. Randy Heiligmann, Dr. Matthew Bumgardner, Ohio

**2007 Silver:** *Benefit-Based Audience Segmentation: A Tool for Identifying Non-industrial Private Forest Owner Education Needs:* Olivia Salmon, Utah

**2007 Bronze:** *Potential for Carbon Storage and Technology Transfer in the Southeastern United States:* Andrew Londo, Mississippi

## **Short Publication:**

**2007 Gold:** *Renewable and Non Renewable Resources:* Sanford Smith, Penn State University

**2008 Gold:** *Watershed & Wetlands:* Sanford Smith, Penn State University

**2007 Silver:** *First Aid for Storm-Damaged Trees:* Hank Stelzer, University of Missouri

**2008 Silver:** *School Gardens: Landscapes for Learning:* Jessica Sullivan, Florida

## **Televised or Videoconference:**

**2007 Gold:** *Living Green PBS Series: Conservation Easements:* Mark Hostetler, Florida

## **Video/DVD/CD:**

**2007 Gold:** *When Nature is at Your Doorstep:* Lauren McDonnell and Martha Monroe, Florida

**2008 Gold:** *Wanted: Asian Longhorned Beetle:* Nicholas Polanin, William Hlubik, James Jarko, Richard Weidman, New Jersey

**2007 Silver:** *Wildlife CSI Unraveling the Mysteries of Wildlife Crop Damage:* Brian McGowan, Indiana

**2008 Silver:** *Caring for a River: Onslow's New River:* Diana Rashash, North Carolina

**2007 Bronze:** *Hardwood Lumber of the Central Midwest:* Brian Miller, Indiana

**2008 Bronze:** *NEMO Wet Dry Video:* Kristine Uhlman, Terry Sprouse, Lainie Levick, Cassie Holmgren, Erin Westfall, Arizona

**Web-based Course:**

**2007 Gold:** *Pond Home Study Program:* James Clark and Bryan Swistock, Pennsylvania

**2008 Gold:** *MyMinnesotaWoods.org:* Eli Sagor and Phillip Potyondy, Minnesota

**2007 Silver:** *Wildlife CSI Unraveling the Mysteries of Wildlife Crop Damage:* Brian McGowan, Indiana

**2008 Silver:** *Riding the Winds with Kalani:* Duane Friend, Jane Scherer, Greg Stack, Drew Glass, Allesandro Bellina, Jerry Barrett, Del Dahl, Illinois

**2008 Bronze:** *Redfish Tracking Project:* Elizabeth Staugler, Roger DeBruler, Kristy Hanlon, Raju Gopinath, Florida

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# EPSILON SIGMA PHI

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## North Central Region

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

#### **Mary TeWinkel, Iowa**

Creative, dedicated and committed are just a few of the words to describe Mary TeWinkel's work. Her strong community efforts have her partnering with schools and other community organizations to offer after-school programming, strengthening school garden programs and providing summer science programming targeted at low income youth.

### VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

#### **Margaret Bethel, Michigan**

Maggie Bethel is a visionary who tackles every new challenge with expertise and passion. She has helped create a nimble, efficient organization which uses transformative education to have a positive impact on Michigan's residents. She is a mentor to many, a scholar to some, and a friend to all.

### ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

#### **Donna Menart, Wisconsin**

Donna Menart strives to enable staff, volunteers and community partners to reach their highest potential. Her careful attention to detail, her expansive vision, her sensitive appreciation for the human side of her work, and her unmitigated commitment to 4-H Youth development and UW-Extension combine to make her a valued administrator.

### DISTINGUISHED TEAM

#### ***Take Action on Radon Website***

**Debra Bartman, Ted Funk, Elizabeth Haynes, Patricia Hildebrand, and Lois Smith, Illinois**

This University of Illinois Extension team partnered with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to develop a web site to help residents understand the health risks of radon, how to test for radon levels, and mitigate elevated levels. The web site is an important source for providing environmental education to non-traditional Extension users.

### DISTINGUISHED EARLY CAREER

#### **Jenny Wehmeier, Wisconsin**

A highly valued team player, Jenny Wehmeier's expertise lies in multiple content areas including child development, parenting, and nutrition education. Rarely does a professional so early in their career get selected for department head responsibilities. However, Jenny rises to the challenge as a dependable, solid, and unifying force.

### DISTINGUISHED MID-CAREER

#### **Gene Mohling, Iowa**

Gene Mohling has worked diligently at establishing the important networks, securing the resources and building relationships necessary to lead Extension in new directions. He has anticipated significant new opportunities and developed support to implement program organizational changes necessary to achieve success. His accomplishments and leadership exemplify Extension and enhance local presence.

### DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

#### **Vera Wiltse, Michigan**

Vera Wiltse firmly believes that young people need to learn about other cultures as a way to expand their minds and increase their understanding of diversity. She believes that

exposing youth to other cultures helps prepare them for a growing global economy and makes them more employable.

## **DIVERSITY – TEAM**

### ***Dairy Workers' Training***

#### **Zen Miller and Tina Kohlman, Wisconsin**

The Dairy Workers' Training Module Development Team has successfully developed and sustained an innovative program highly valued by producers and educators. It is used to conduct and teach bilingual trainings for over 700 dairy workers. As a result, dairy producers and workers have been bridging the communication gap.

## **DIVERSITY – INDIVIDUAL**

### **Tina Kohlman, Wisconsin**

Tina Kohlman's knowledge and expertise has been instrumental in successfully developing the Dairy Workers' Training Modules, specifically the creation of Module III-Calf Management Skills. Conducting and teaching bilingual trainings for 120 workers for the past 1½ years, Tina shows her commitment to reaching out to the Hispanic community locally.

## **CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

### **Janet Bechman, Indiana**

Janet Bechman provides outstanding leadership as the Extension Plan of Work and Accountability Coordinator for the Purdue Extension Service. Her responsibilities include rewriting the new Plan of Work used by the College of Agriculture. Her cheerful and always quiet personality has helped many an educator through some very frustrating situations.

### **Roger Sherer, Indiana**

Roger Sherer has served as the 4-H Youth Educator/CED in Wells County for over 20 years. His outstanding 4-H program is well respected

within Purdue Extension. He has served as the Youth Section President and is the current President of the Alpha Lambda Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, Purdue University.

### **Margaret Phillips, Kansas**

Margaret Phillips has played an instrumental role in leadership and professional development within the Extension system. She has served in a variety of Extension positions and is able to view professional development from many perspectives. Margaret contributes practical, useful and skill-building concepts and ideas to serve the system.

### **Julie A. Chapin, Michigan**

Julie Chaplin is a consummate educator, visionary, role model, colleague and leader who embodies the spirit of Extension education and positive youth development. Her connectedness is visible on the MSU campus, in counties across Michigan, with partner organizations across the state and in states across the nation.

### **Janet E. Beyer, Minnesota**

Janet Beyer's outstanding abilities as a teacher, innovator, collaborator, visionary leader and team player have put her on the cutting edge in responding to emerging issues in the area of youth development. She sees the essence of the message for the public and mobilizes work groups to accomplish their goals.

### **Susan Hansen, Nebraska**

Susan Hansen obtained \$10,000 in grant funds to provide food and nutrition education activities for 801 youth in grades one through four. A variety of educational settings, 250 volunteer hours, and creative ideas enabled Susan to engage 81% of early elementary students in Colfax County in nutrition education.

**Terry Gregoire, North Dakota**

Terry Gregoire is an Extension Agronomist, highly respected by agriculture producers and professionals throughout North Dakota. He has developed innovative educational agronomic programs including the web-based ProCrop Agronomic database. Terry is a mentor and true friend to many Extension professionals.

**Marjorie “Marge” E. Wolford, Ohio**

Marge Wolford has collaborated with 35 community agencies including Asset Builders’ Steering Committee, Family Children First Council and Partnerships for Success. She is a leader in her profession through association roles, work in resource management, nutrition, women’s health, family stability, and asset development.

**William “Bill” Keck, South Dakota**

Bill Keck has a 34-year career with Cooperative Extension in Colorado and South Dakota. He is a Horticulture Educator who has also helped establish the Horse Hippology Content in SD and was instrumental in starting the CHARACTER COUNTS coalition in Rapid City.

**Christine Kniep, Wisconsin**

Christine Kniep, Family Living Educator, has contributed to the university, faculty department and professional associations. She is committed to improving the lives of individuals and families as evidenced in programs such as Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Rent Smart, Family Financial Management, Building Capacity for Evaluating Outcomes, and Responsibility Based Culture training.

**Dianne Weber, Wisconsin**

Dianne Weber, Family Living Educator, has been a University of Wisconsin – Extension faculty member for over 31 years in three counties. Her accomplishments include adapting a Strengthening Families Program for Hmong families, co-development of the nationally distributed Teen Brain program, and leadership in

the Family Caregiving Community of Practice for eXtension.

**Northeast Region****DISTINGUISHED SERVICE****Kendra L. Wells, Maryland**

Through her work with the Maryland 4H Youth Development program, Kendra Wells provides education and opportunities to youth and adult volunteers to practice life skills in communication, decision-making, problem-solving and leadership. She is a unique and gifted professional, an innovative thinker and a hands-on implementer.

**VISIONARY LEADERSHIP****Peggy H. Shuffstall, Pennsylvania**

Peggy Shuffstall has done an excellent job providing training for Extension faculty and staff in video teleconferencing and web-conferencing. Her trainings have increased the comfort, knowledge and adoption by Extension professionals, staff and students and offer savings in time and resources.

**ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP****Richard “Dick” Byrne, Maryland**

Dick Byrne’s skills as a motivator and team builder have set him apart as an exceptional leader since beginning his Extension career. Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of Dick’s leadership is the sense of trust that his staff has in him due to his steady and unwavering encouragement for their efforts.

**CONTINUED EXCELLENCE****Mary Ellen Waltemire, Maryland**

Mary Ellen Waltemire serves as one of two Maryland Regional Extension Directors supervising 170 faculty and staff in ten counties and four research centers. She stays current with trends in the Cooperative Extension System through participation in professional development

organizations and service on committees at the state, regional and national level.

## **DISTINGUISHED TEAM**

**Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow**  
**Debra Gregory, Joann Kowalski, Nancy Crago, Winifred McGee, Michael McDavid, Patty Anderson, Jon Laughner, Don Tanner, Janet Allis, Tim Kelsey, Pennsylvania**

With leadership development as a program priority in Cooperative Extension, a group of Extension educators adapted the Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow curriculum, offered a state-wide train-the-trainer program, and provided on-going in-services to Extension educators resulting in a 39-hour leadership curriculum for communities, businesses, and organizations.

## **DISTINGUISHED EARLY CAREER**

**Charles F. Schuster, Maryland**

Charles Schuster is a valued member of the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension. His programs involve Integrated Plant Health Care, Engaging the Hispanic Workforce and Agribusiness Management, all of which are geared toward the growing commercial horticulture industry in Montgomery County and surrounding counties in Maryland.

## **DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**

**John Lea-Cox, Maryland**

John Lea-Cox is committed to the importance of Extension programs in improving the quality of life for rural people and promoting economic progress in developing countries. His experience in Extension programming and horticultural crop production has been important in developing research and Extension programs in Thailand, Costa Rica and Spain.

## **DIVERSITY – TEAM**

***Extension Reaching Out to Multicultural Programs: At Home and Abroad***

**Mary Alice Gettings, Roxanne Price, Deanna Behring, Nancy Crago, Nancy Kadwill, Leon Ressler, Robin Rex, and Fay Strickler, Pennsylvania**

The five and a half hour workshop aided participants in their understanding of cultural differences, and created an understanding of how reaching diverse audiences takes research, education, and thought. The program evaluations allowed Penn State Cooperative Extension to determine future educational needs in the area of diversity and multiculturalism for Extension professionals.

## **CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

**Mark Manno, Delaware**

Mark Manno's approach to 4-H programming and funding as a county agent was on the cutting edge and ahead of his time. The funding he has obtained allows the 4-H program, statewide, to reach new, underserved audiences. Mark's ability to develop grant writing skills in others further adds to his contributions.

**Nancy Stevens, Pennsylvania**

Nancy Stevens' long tenure with Cooperative Extension has resulted in her county being a leader in state funding, innovative programming, and clientele impact. Under her leadership, Nancy and her staff have been recognized for producing award-winning programming, and their office has become a showcase for the green industry.

## **Southern Region**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

**Lanny Hass, North Carolina**

Lanny Hass' commitment to the development of his peers to their fullest potential is a model for all of us to follow. His impact can best be described

by a learner's quote: "This was one of the best trainings I have attended in over 25 years with NCCE."

## **VISIONARY LEADERSHIP**

### **Christine Barrier, North Carolina**

No one tells Extension's story better than Christine Barrier. Her heart and soul is entwined throughout our organization. Christine "leads by example" not only within association work, but throughout her entire Extension profession. She has an unselfish commitment to serve at all levels of our organization, as well as in her community.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP**

### **William "Tony" A. Roberts, Georgia**

Tony Roberts' desire to enhance the agent's ability to meet the needs of the clientele is evident through his leadership endeavors. He desires change and impact be made, and he empowers the agents of his district to reach higher to succeed beyond their expectations both professionally and personally.

## **CONTINUED EXCELLENCE**

### **Deborah Thomason, South Carolina**

Deborah Thomason's professional accomplishments in the area of Building Family Strengths have been recognized by her colleagues across the country. Her career has made a difference in the lives of many 4-Hers, volunteers, and families. Deborah is a dedicated professional and exemplifies excellence in all that she does.

## **DISTINGUISHED TEAM**

### ***Risk Management Think Tank***

**Janet Fox, Lisa Arcemont, Paul Coreil, Lanette Hebert, Karen Martin, Todd Tarifa, Mark Tassin, Louisiana**

The top risk management concern identified for Louisiana was youth protection. As a result, an Overnight Chaperone Program was developed. In

order to provide a safe, positive environment, the Overnight Chaperone Program provides paid and unpaid staff with the knowledge and tools to lead a positive, successful overnight situation.

## **DISTINGUISHED EARLY CAREER**

### **Stacy D. Morris, Texas**

The ability to work with a wide variety of personalities by Stacy Morris has built strong relationships for the Institute and Extension with Texas county officials. Her understanding of county government and adult education, coupled with her knowledge of the meeting planning industry and leadership development, has made her an invaluable asset.

## **DISTINGUISHED MID-CAREER**

### **Katherine Cason, South Carolina**

Throughout Katherine Cason's career, she has provided leadership to nutrition and food safety programs, facilitating the delivery of high quality, relevant, high-priority, cost-effective programs with measurable impact. Katherine is a professional who exemplifies the model of the land-grant university – integrating teaching, research, and outreach into the programs she works with.

## **DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**

### **Dan James, Texas**

When you discuss International Programs in Texas, one of the first mentioned is the youth Extension program coordinated by Dan James. He has helped youth in their understanding of cultural diversities in twelve countries. The lives of youth around the world have been changed for the better by Dan's dedication.

## **DIVERSITY – TEAM**

### ***Texas 4-H Building Community Inclusion (BCI)***

The inclusions trainings conducted in public schools led to a climate where people with disabilities were more accepted and understood. The efforts are particularly important as the general public and elected officials observe how 4-H values diversity and the ways 4-H is more accommodating and welcoming to all people.

## **DIVERSITY – INDIVIDUAL**

### **Mark Blevins, North Carolina**

Mark Blevins is demonstrating critical assets in the campaign to create a more diverse Extension. Getting involved in diversity efforts locally, and on broader teams, equips agents with tools to understand the problems faced by underserved groups, open up dialogue, counter discrimination, and champion the issues that face one's clientele.

## **CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

### **Dena Lee Barnes, Alabama**

During her thirty-four year career with Cooperative Extension, Dena Lee Barnes has made a positive impact upon the lives of thousands of youth and adults in Alabama. Her love of Extension, creative programming and dedication to the people of Alabama has made her one of the most respected Extension employees in Alabama.

### **Terrie Treadway, Arkansas**

Terrie Treadway is a 26-year Extension employee who has served in FCS and EFENP roles throughout her career with Arkansas Extension. She works in health education, as well as food safety education, and has generated over \$30,000 in grants for various Extension program needs in her county.

### **John M. Stevely, Florida**

A consummate Extension Agent, John Stevely's work has contributed to changes in state rules,

recovery of the sponge industry, commercialization of a venting tool increasing fish viability, creation of a local fishery festival, and reef restoration. He has received two Smithsonian Research Fellowships, 25 awards, and authored or co-authored over 70 publications.

### **Cherry Hovatter, Georgia**

In Cherry Hovatter's 25-year Extension career, she has touched more than 30,000 youth in three states. She enjoys watching 4-H'ers become leaders in their adult life. Cherry feels it is important to lead youth by example, thus she has served in many leadership positions during her Extension profession.

### **Judith Hetterman, Kentucky**

Judith Hetterman's main emphasis in her Extension Career has been the development of textile and clothing programs for both adults and youth. She helped develop the KY 4-H Master Clothing Volunteer and 4-H Needlework projects. Judith also helped develop the Owen County Farm and Craft Market and coordinates Leadership Owen County.

### **Carole Sue Rison, Kentucky (deceased)**

Local needs, cutting edge and teamwork describe Carole Sue Rison's programming. She collaborated with leaders and elected officials to develop, acquire funding and construct an Education and Marketing Center to promote and nurture regional education value-added development and marketing. Carole was proudest of her work to accomplish the mission of Extension.

## **Western Region**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

#### **Kristine Long, Alaska**

Kristine Long has explored and served the needs of Rural Alaska villages. Her insights and visions brought funds to UAF Cooperative Programs to

establish a test kitchen and lab for working with businesses for training employees in food product development and food safety and sanitation.

### **Jeffery Tranel, Colorado**

Jeff Tranel shows enormous enthusiasm and dedication towards providing quality and timely Extension programs to the people of Colorado. His efforts include leveraging Colorado monies with funds from the USDA Risk Management Agency and Western Center for Risk Management Education.

### **VISIONARY LEADERSHIP**

#### **Rajiv Khosla, Colorado**

Raj Khosla is a highly motivated, self-disciplined, goal-oriented, hard working individual who maintains balance and demonstrates excellence in all three missions of a land grant institution. His professional and program accomplishments, coupled with his strong will and deeds, brings positive change in the lives of others.

### **DISTINGUISHED TEAM**

***Extension Volunteer Organization for Leadership Vitality & Enterprise (EVOLVE)***  
**Roger Coupal, Cole Ehmke, Milt Green, Mary Martin, Rhonda Shipp, Bill Taylor, Duane Williams, Wyoming**

EVOLVE engages communities and counties/regions in creating and customizing their leadership institutes. These institutes provide civic education to foster an understanding of community decision-making, to increase knowledge of the community and issues, and to develop such skills as problem-solving, working with groups, enhancing cooperation, and dealing with conflict.

### **DISTINGUISHED EARLY CAREER**

#### **Alexa Lamm, Colorado**

As an emerging leader, Alexa Lamm looks for new ways to involve youth, parents and agents in

improving programs at the county, state and national level. Her enthusiasm and commitment to her work is contagious and clearly obvious by the amazing amount of new programs she has developed and promoted.

### **DISTINGUISHED MID-CAREER**

#### **Michele He'bert, Alaska**

Michele He'bert's strength is in collaborating with specialists in other states to bring new programs and funding to Alaskan clientele. Her use of the media is extensive and effective in reaching clientele. Michele has worked with specialists in other states developing programs and obtaining grants totaling \$477,258 to enhance programs.

### **DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**

#### **Lillian Larwood, Oregon**

Lillian Larwood's participation as an IFYE delegate to India in 1968–1969 opened her eyes to understanding the values, culture, and traditions of other countries. Her career speaks to the importance of helping 4-H members and leaders understand the concept of world citizenship and identify global connections in 4-H projects.

### **DIVERSITY – TEAM**

**Delivering Equity in Financial Literacy Learning Experiences for Spanish-Speaking Clientele**

#### **Debra Minar Driscoll, Oregon**

When an effective financial literacy curriculum, which was successfully used with English-speaking clients, was unavailable in Spanish, this team found a way to translate and adapt the English curriculum to make it culturally relevant for Latino families in Oregon's mid-Willamette Valley and the United States.

### ***Living and Working on the Land***

**Cole Ehmke, Milt Green, John Hewlett, Dallas Mount, Wyoming**

The Living and Working on the Land project gave hope, confidence and knowledge to three disparate groups who are increasingly prominent in Wyoming agriculture and rural life. It broadened the perspectives about the diversity of stakeholders, and expanded visions about what could be accomplished in Wyoming at a profit.

youth succeed in youth/adult partnership positions in the 4-H Youth Development programs.

## **DIVERSITY – INDIVIDUAL**

### **Jeanne Brandt, Oregon**

Jeanne Brandt has designed and delivered interactive programs, to participants of all ages, to experience increased understanding, comfort, and acceptance of other cultures they encounter in their neighborhoods. She is extremely effective in developing and delivering Extension educational information to 4-H members, leaders, Extension faculty, and Family and Community Educators.

## **CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

### **Cynthia Flynn, Arizona**

Cynthia Flynn is a County Director for Pima County Cooperative Extension and Special Assistant to the Director of Arizona Cooperative Extension. Her programming efforts concentrate in community development and internationalizing Extension. Cynthia has experience regionally, nationally, and internationally as a trainer and educator.

### **Tamelyn “Tammy” K. Skubinna, Oregon**

Tammy Skubinna is renowned for her commitment to the 4-H Youth Development profession and the youth she serves. Her primary areas of emphasis have been in developing older youth opportunities and her middle management volunteer development. Tammy’s efforts help

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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

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## National Distinguished Service Award

### **Dick Senese, Minnesota**

Dick Senese participated in the founding meeting of NACDEP, was President, co-chaired the Philadelphia conference, initiated national awards, created pre-conference and mobile workshops, co-designed the track structure, and supported the newsletter and merchandise catalog. He represents NACDEP in the strategic link to JCEP. Dick supports Minnesota staff as members, leaders, and conference attendees.

## North Central Region National & Regional Winners

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

### **Merrily Hamp, Indiana**

Merrily Hamp was selected by Indiana Extension Community Development Educators for her exceptional work with groups in LaGrange County. She worked on leadership training, facilitation skills, goal setting, and group organizational skills. In recent years, Merrily organized statewide training sessions for Extension professionals to increase their facilitation skills.

### **Michael “Mike” J. Liepold, Minnesota**

Minnesota recognizes Mike Liepold for infusing diversity education into agricultural leadership programs, for cunning political and marketing savvy, and for designing a new cohort program to revitalize Extension’s advocacy statewide. He provides leadership and support to his entire team. A strong rural leader himself, Mike contributes greatly to Minnesota leadership.

### **Stephen Jeanetta, Missouri**

Stephen Jeanetta coordinates the Community Development Academy and provides leadership to statewide programs in Organizational Development and Nonprofit Management, Community and Economic Planning and Building Inclusive Communities. He conducts research around issues affecting community change and organizational development; teaches in the Rural Sociology department; and is engaged in international development projects.

### **Kathleen Tweeten, North Dakota**

Kathy Tweeten has been very involved in the inception and leadership of the NACDEP organization. She was a member of the original NACDEP organizing committee and elected as NACDEP’s first president. Kathleen currently serves as the Director of the North Dakota State University Extension Service Center for Community Vitality.

### **Myra Moss, Ohio**

Myra Moss is involved in creation and promotion of Ohio Extension multi-disciplinary community development programming based on Sustainable Development principles. She provides leadership to statewide teams that have introduced new and innovative programs. This includes Ohio’s model of First Impressions and Downtown Market Analysis, and transitioning Entrepreneurs and Communities into the Knowledge Economy.

### **Andy Lewis, Wisconsin**

Professor Andy Lewis is a State Specialist with the Center for Community Economic Development at the UW-Extension. Andy developed “First Impressions,” which is a community assessment and improvement program that has been utilized by more than 500 communities across the U.S. and Canada.

## **EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING – INDIVIDUAL**

### **Laura Kalambokidis, Minnesota**

The initial success of the *Public Value of Public Programs* clearly emphasizes the importance and need for academic outreach to public leaders throughout Minnesota. This valuable program developed by Laura Kalambokidis is helping in fulfilling those demands and will likely do so for years to come.

## **EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY – TEAM**

### **Lisa Hinz, Jody Horntvedt, Minnesota**

The Restless Leg Syndrome Foundation contracted with Extension staff to design and offer a home-study course and audio-conference training to build the facilitation skills of their volunteer support group leaders from the US and Canada. An online meeting room, written materials, and unique over-the-phone training ensured ready access by learners.

## **EXCELLENCE IN TEAMWORK – TEAM**

### **Connie Francis, Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, Nebraska**

*Red Carpet Service* is a train-the-trainer program created because of a specific community request. It is designed to help front-line employees in rural communities learn how to promote tourism in their area, practice skills to identify and respond to traveler needs, and sell their community in a positive way.

## **COMMUNICATOR AWARD - EDUCATIONAL PACKAGE – INDIVIDUAL**

### **Jody Horntvedt, Minnesota**

*Social Capital: The Glue That Holds Communities Together* was designed to meet the needs of a specific audience (Extension Learning Circle members). Since its development,

it has been used by Extension leadership and civic engagement staff around the state to introduce the concepts of social capital to individuals and communities.

## **Regional Winner EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING – TEAM**

### **Horizons Project**

#### **Principal Investigators:**

**Donna Rae Scheffert, Minnesota; Douglas Steele, Montana; JaneAnn Stout, Iowa; Karla Trautman, South Dakota; Kathleen Tweeten, North Dakota; Laurel Vermillion, North Dakota; Priscilla Salant, Idaho; Robert McDaniel, Washington**

#### **Project Directors:**

**Al Nygard, North Dakota; Dan Clark, Montana; Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, Washington; Kari Fruechte, South Dakota; Lynette Flage, North Dakota; Mary Schmidt, Idaho; Monica Herrera, Minnesota; Ruth Freeman, Iowa**

*The Horizons Program* is a community leadership program aimed at reducing poverty in rural and reservation communities with populations of 5,000 or fewer and with histories of economic decline and significant population change. The Horizons project is funded by the Northwest Area Foundation and operates in seven states.

## **Northeast Region National & Regional Winners**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

#### **William “Shuffy” C. Shuffstall, Pennsylvania**

Shuffy Shuffstall was awarded the 2008 NACDEP Distinguished Service Award, Pennsylvania, in honor of his two decades of exceptional service to the communities in which he has worked, Penn State Cooperative Extension, and Pennsylvania.

This includes leadership in developing strategic planning, community visioning, and Community Network programs.

**Mary Peabody, Vermont**

Mary Peabody came to UVM Extension in 1988. Her accomplishments include programming for municipal officials, directing the activities of the Women's Agricultural Network, and development of the VT Leadership Institute. She currently works with the Extension Entrepreneurs and Their Communities team to develop online education for farmers and rural entrepreneurs.

**EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING – TEAM**

**Louis V. Bassano, James C. McConnon, Jr., Maine**  
***The Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace***

A highly successful collaboration, organized by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in collaboration with business-support organizations and business owners, has contributed to business success in Down East Maine and served as the model for the Governor's Regional Conferences on Business and Entrepreneurship.

**COMMUNICATOR AWARD – MEDIA PRESENTATION - INDIVIDUAL**

**Winifred W. McGee, Pennsylvania**  
***Exploring Shared Kitchen Incubators – A Community Project***

When surveyed, Pennsylvania economic professionals and food entrepreneurs reflected great interest in shared kitchen incubators, while admitting limited knowledge about the concept. This presentation teaches community groups about shared kitchens – defining the basic concept and identifying the support that Penn State Outreach can provide in assessing feasibility and potential sustainability.

**COMMUNICATOR AWARD – EDUCATIONAL PIECE - INDIVIDUAL**

**Winifred W. McGee, Pennsylvania**  
***Food for Profit: Marketing Your Product***

The Department of Labor credited entrepreneurial firms with creating 12.3 million jobs nationally in 2006. To foster continued impact on our local economy, entrepreneurs must adopt sustainable business management practices. Marketing Your Product teaches researching, analysis, and responding to a target market's desires to support food ventures' sustainability and profitability.

**COMMUNICATOR AWARD – EDUCATIONAL PIECE - TEAM**

**Steven W. Burr, Utah**  
**Lisa Chase, Vermont**  
**Gary P. Green, Wisconsin**  
**Varna Ramaswamy, Vermont**  
***Agritourism Checklists***

This multi-state project identified needs of farmers and ranchers throughout the U.S. regarding information and resources to support agritourism. In response, we developed seven checklists with summary information and key resources. Evaluation feedback indicates that these checklists have helped farmers and ranchers make decisions about agritourism diversification and expansion.

**Regional Winner**  
**DIVERSITY AWARD – TEAM**

**Helen Graves, Cheryl Johnson, Wayne Lundstrom, Carl Marcum, Tony Michael, Florita Montgomery, Bob Moore, Norm Schwertfeger, Sarah Stevenson, Kate Burbank, Mindy Mall, Steve Bonanno, Larry Cote, Judy Cowell, Michael Dougherty, West Virginia**  
***The Community Development Leadership Team*** of the West Virginia University Extension Service developed a leadership training

curriculum for use by Extension faculty in working with groups and organizations statewide. It features 25 modules over a broad range of topics and provides all of the elements necessary to teach the sessions.

## **South Region National & Regional Winners**

### **BONNIE TEATER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EDUCATOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

This award is designed to recognize an Extension educator in the Southern region who has been engaged in exceptional Community Development work at the county, multi-county, state, regional, and/or national level for at least ten years.

**Add name** Recipient to be announced at the Southern Region Awards Banquet.

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Wayne P. Miller, Arkansas**

With nearly 20 years of service to the University of Arkansas, Dr. Wayne Miller conducts research, economic analyses, and educational programming in the areas of rural development, public policy, and local government. His tireless dedication to research and education has gained him respect from colleagues, peers and community leaders throughout Arkansas.

#### **Garen Evans, Mississippi**

A native of Texas, Dr. Garen Evans received a Ph.D. in 2002 in Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M for his innovative work with economic and fiscal impact modeling and analysis. At Mississippi State University, Dr. Evans provides technical expertise to help community leaders and specialists identify and evaluate socio-economic development alternatives.

#### **Edwin John Jones, North Carolina**

Dr. Edwin Jones' 25-year career in Cooperative Extension has resulted in focused leadership as Associate Director & Program Leader for Agriculture, Natural Resources, Community and Rural Development in North Carolina. His work has gained him the respect of local and national community leaders and his peers.

### **Regional Winner EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY – TEAM**

#### **eXtension Community of Practice – *Entrepreneurs and their Communities* 20+ members**

**Bo Beaulieu, Team Coordinator, Mississippi**  
The Entrepreneurs & Their Communities eXtension web site provides educational resources for entrepreneurs and communities. Resources are science-based and developed by a team of Extension faculty from across the nation with strong backgrounds in community and economic development. Resources include FAQs, information briefs, research highlights, case studies, and lessons learned.

## **West Region National & Regional Winners**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Cynthia Flynn, Arizona**

Cynthia Flynn is a member of NACDEP and Team Leader of Arizona Cooperative Extension Community Vitality Initiative. She has presented, trained, and facilitated community development practices from the local to the international level. Recent experiences include formation of the Pima County Youth Leadership Collaboration and teaching Building Communities throughout the Caribbean.

### **Rhonda Shipp, Wyoming**

Over her 27-year career, developing others' leadership skills has been Rhonda Shipp's greatest personal and professional achievement. With a passion for excellence, she has formed the building blocks of solid communities. Rhonda exudes the kind of engaging professionalism that one wishes were characteristic of all educators, and present in all communities.

### **DIVERSITY AWARD – TEAM**

#### **Cole Ehmke, Milt Green, John Hewlett, Dallas Mount, Jennifer Jones, Wyoming**

The *Living and Working on the Land* project targeted three disparate groups who are increasingly prominent in agriculture and rural life: women, Native Americans, and new/young farmers. It fostered knowledge, confidence, broadened perspectives about the diversity of agriculture, and expanded visions about what could be accomplished in Wyoming.

### **COMMUNICATOR AWARD – EDUCATIONAL PIECE – TEAM**

#### **Steven W. Burr, Utah; Lisa Chase, Vermont; Gary P. Green, Wisconsin; Varna Ramaswamy, Vermont Agritourism Checklists**

This multi-state project identified needs of farmers and ranchers throughout the U.S. regarding information and resources to support agritourism. In response, we developed seven checklists with summary information and key resources. Evaluation feedback indicates that these checklists have helped farmers and ranchers make decisions about agritourism diversification and expansion.

### **Regional Winners**

#### **EXCELLENCE IN TEAMWORK – TEAM**

#### **Cynthia Flynn, Cathy L. Martinez, Dan McDonald, Everett Rhodes, Beth Tucker, Juanita O'Campo Waits, Arizona**

The *Arizona Community Vitality Initiative* mini-grant program provides opportunities for Extension professionals to receive funds to support incorporation of community development (CD) strategies into Extension programming. Grantees receive additional support of seasoned colleagues who provide mentoring, coaching, and facilitation. Results include improved attitudes regarding CD work and regular integration of CD strategies into programming.

#### **COMMUNICATOR AWARD – EDUCATIONAL PACKAGE – INDIVIDUAL**

#### **Paul Lachapelle, Montana**

This educational package is designed for those supervising or serving on public boards across Montana and includes a 45-page handbook and downloadable PDF with hyperlinks to the Montana Code Annotated, Case Study Exercises, 52-slide presentation and handouts. Topics covered include Montana's open meetings law, board liability, and parliamentary procedure.

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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS

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## NACAA HALL OF FAME AWARDS

### North Central Region

#### **Donald Huls, Nebraska**

Don Huls' Extension program included crops, livestock and youth development. In July, 2006, Dawes and Sioux Counties had a 62,000 acre wildfire caused by lightning. The Dawes/Sioux fire fund received over \$200,000 loads of hay, feed, fencing materials, and other supplies donated to those who lost pasture, hay and fence.

### Northeast Region

#### **S. Glenn Ellenberger, Pennsylvania**

Glenn Ellenberger was instrumental in introducing no-till corn planting through a corn tillage field day. The event is now called "Ag Progress Days" featuring most Pennsylvania field crops. Glenn maintained relationships between urban and rural residents through his monthly television program called "Valley Market Basket," and his column "Garden Tips" was published in the local Sunday newspaper for more than twenty years.

### Southern Region

#### **James "Jim" Smith, Virginia**

Jim Smith served as President of NACAA and retired after 35-years as an Agriculture Natural Resources Extension Agent. He was instrumental in the development of the Bull Test Center at Knoll Crest Farm in Red House, Virginia. Jim worked tirelessly with his clientele to improve their agriculture operations and increase their economic stability.

### Western Region

#### **Larry Sagers, Utah**

Larry Sagers has been with Extension for 26 years. He has hosted America's longest-running garden show and the Intermountain West's highest-ranked weekend radio show each Saturday for 25 years. Larry started beginning and advanced Master Gardener programs in several counties, training more than 2300 and is the State Master Gardener Coordinator.

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

This is the 71<sup>st</sup> year that the Distinguished Service Awards have been presented by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. The first time was in 1938 at the annual meeting in Chicago when 22 members were honored.

## ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The recipients of this award have less than ten years of service in the Cooperative Extension Service. They have been selected by their peers and are being recognized for excellence in their professional field. Each state can select up to one percent of their association's membership for this award.

### North Central Region

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

#### **Jeff West, Illinois**

Jeff West is responsible for implementing programming, fiscal, and staffing matters in the unit. His programming includes fee hunting, equine, and meat goat production. His tenure year in Extension included assistant Ag Advisor in

Bureau County Illinois; Ag Advisor in Stark County; County Dir. in Fulton County; and Henry-Stark Counties.

### **Greg Bossaer, Indiana**

Greg Bossaer has met the agricultural education needs of the farming community for over two decades. His program has emphasized crop production, farm management, and rural economic development.

### **Mike Manning, Indiana**

Mike Manning started his Extension career in 1983 as the Perry County Ag and Natural Resources Educator. He transferred to Jasper County in 1991 and has been the Northwest District Director since 2003. Mike has seen impact from his efforts in Extension and values the relationships gained from his programming.

### **Patrick Derdzinski, Iowa**

Patrick Derdzinski offers help with new educational programs. One in which he personally assisted 160 farmers with a spread sheet program to select the best farm bill options. Another was the New Farms Project that brought in three new dairies and resulted in an economic impact of over 12 million dollars.

### **Richard Fechter, Kansas**

As the only agent in the county, Richard Fechter provides leadership and educational programs to all audiences in Elk County. Beef cattle production and grazing land management have been his main program focus, but other responsibilities include 4-H Youth Development, forage and crop production, and horticulture.

### **Erwin 'Duke' Elsner, Michigan**

Duke Elsner's programming has centered on fruit production and IPM. He has made hundreds of presentations to agricultural producers and Master Gardener classes. Known as the "Bug Man," Duke is a popular presenter for schools, garden clubs, nature centers and other venues.

### **Stanley J. Moore, Michigan**

Stanley Moore's leadership and programming efforts have earned the respect of his community and colleagues across Michigan and the Nation. He is looked upon by county officials for help in a variety of areas. The regional Small Farm Conference, which Stanley coordinates, has been increasingly successful over the past eight years.

### **Brad Carlson, Minnesota**

Brad Carlson is shared between two counties working in Agricultural Production Systems. Early work in his career included an Environmental/Agricultural Youth Day Camp, Livestock Zoning, and Manure Management Issues, Pesticide Safety Education. Recent focus has been on Tillage and Erosion, Agricultural Drainage, and General Crop Production.

### **Roger Eakins, Missouri**

Roger Eakins is the southeast regional coordinator for the Missouri Show-Me-Select Heifer Improvement. Recently, the Missouri Department of Agriculture Director appointed him to a fourteen-member board to develop a statewide marketing plan for Missouri beef. Roger places clientele and the Missouri cattle industry ahead of his personal needs.

### **Jennifer "Jenny" Nixon, Nebraska**

Jenny Nixon, works with a strong team of educators in the northern panhandle to positively impact natural resource and livestock management during and after fires and drought. Rangeland monitoring, Women in Ag Conferences, and eAg courses are some of the educational programs she enjoys teaching.

### **Bradley T. Brummond, North Dakota**

Bradley Brummond saw the need and developed a successful educational program for organic growers in North Dakota, and is now viewed by organic growers as a valuable resource for information relating to this topic. He has also run a

successful program in conventional agriculture in Hettinger, Kidder and Walsh Counties.

### **John F. Grimes, Ohio**

John Grimes specialized in the areas of beef cattle production, agronomic crop production, and youth programming. He has provided leadership to Extension programs, such as the Ohio Beef Heifer Development Program and the Agriculture Reality Store. John has programming results in the areas of beef, forages, small farm management.

### **Randy Zondag, Ohio**

Randy Zondag developed the nursery IPM program in Lake County which is a partnership of the nursery industry, suppliers, Extension specialist, and USDA-ARS. He has conducted research in the areas of spray reduction, more efficient irrigation, new pesticide trials, use of weather station data, and best management practice adoption.

### **Gary Erickson, South Dakota**

Gary Erickson served as an Extension Educator in South Dakota for 29 years. He has concentrated his program efforts in farm research in the areas of soil fertility, plant disease, weed control, precision agriculture and crop varieties. Gary is currently doing research concerning precision conservation using multiple Cellulosic Feedstocks.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **Paul A Mariman, Illinois**

With expertise in the fields of agronomics, small farm enterprises, alternative fuels, and community development, Paul Mariman's major projects include assisting a grain cooperative to become ISO9001 Certified, instructing a monthly production marketing group, aiding in the development of a specialty meats processing

plant, and coordinating the University of Illinois Extension Katrina Project.

### **Scott Gabbard, Indiana**

Scott Gabbard is the Ag and Natural Resources Educator for Purdue Extension in Shelby County where he instituted the Master Gardener Program. Scott helped found their association in 2002 and assisted in the revitalization of the Shelby County Ag Promotion Committee. They received their 501(c)3 charitable organization in 2007.

### **Krista Harding, Kansas**

Krista Harding's objective in research-based livestock production is to increase profitability by providing information to help producers make better management decisions. Her 4-Hand Youth Development program centers on a traditional 4-H Club program. Krista has initiated a unique horticulture education program in fourth grade classrooms in her county.

### **Beth Clawson, Michigan**

Beth Clawson's work with implementing the county's Solid Waste Plan is evidenced in the significant impacts in the county. She has become a resource to partnering organizations for her knowledge and ability to teach in the areas of natural resources, conservation and water quality.

### **Philip "Phil" R. Kaatz, Michigan**

Phil Kaatz put his education to good use on a trip to Belarus to work on a dairy nutrition project helping increase milk production and farm revenue. Phil's active association participation in agronomy programming, along with his role as a County Extension Director, makes him a valuable asset to MSU Extension.

### **Lizabeth "Liz" Stahl, Minnesota**

Liz Stahl has worked in the Seed Industry, Agribusiness, and Non-Profit sectors. Her current programming areas include corn and soybean production issues, conservation tillage, and pesticide safety education.

**Karisha Devlin, Missouri**

Agricultural Business Specialist in Northeast Missouri, Karisha Devlin, provides leadership to Annie's Project, a program for farm women. She has assisted in writing a Risk Management and Estate Planning curriculum and serves as an Ag Business Counselor with the Missouri Value Added Center.

**Gary Lesoing, Nebraska**

Gary Lesoing conducts a Soybean Cyst Nematode education and awareness program with farmers in southeast Nebraska. He initiated the first Master Gardener program, co-facilitated the first "Farm Beginnings" program in Nebraska, serves as moderator of the Eastern Nebraska Diversified Ag Committee and participates in Nebraska's soybean rust sentinel plot monitoring system.

**Harold Watters, Ohio**

Harold Watters works locally, regionally, and nationally on crop production issues. He is co-chair of the OSU Extension Agronomic Crops Team, is an editor to the Crop Observation and Recommendation Network (CORN) newsletter, and serves on the International Certified Crop Advisors Board.

**Heather Gessner, South Dakota**

Heather Gessner is the project coordinator for the state's Winning the Game sessions and Estate Planning programs. Her efforts also include increasing producer profitability through SPA/IRM groups, one-on-one sessions, row crop meetings centered on input costs and risk management, and estate planning/farm transition. She has developed cost calculators and Extension publications.

**David W. Fischer, Wisconsin**

David Fischer is the Crops and Soils agent for Dane County. While covering the broad areas of Crops and Soils, most of his work has centered on pest and nutrient management. Soon David

will be working with the Dane County Land Conservation Department on the farmland preservation program.

**Northeast Region****DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD****James "Jim" C. Hanson, Maryland**

Jim Hanson has attempted to match his Extension activities with the changing face of Maryland agriculture. He has worked with tobacco farmers to reduce labor costs and, with the tobacco buyout, has developed marketing opportunities to increase fruit and vegetable production. Currently, Jim is working with the increasing number of small farmers to increase their profitability.

**Wesley Kline, New Jersey**

Wesley Kline collaborates in on-farm research to provide commercial vegetable and herb growers access to up-to-date information, production practices, technological developments and post-harvest handling techniques. He developed a food safety-training manual for food safety third-party audits which has been distributed throughout New Jersey and nationally.

**Dale Dewing, New York**

Dale Dewing's most rewarding achievement is working with area farmers to develop practices for producing dairy quality forages from intensively managed grasses. He currently is the Nutrient Management Team Leader for the Watershed Agricultural Program in Delaware County where he has developed nutrient management planning tools, procedures and incentive programs.

**James "Jim" Grace, New York**

Jim Grace is a strong member of the statewide farm management team both in New York and the Great Lakes Region, with projects that have helped to document the costs of production of dairies that use rotational pasture. Jim is respected

and well-liked by farmers throughout the communities.

### **Thomas “Tom” Butzler, Pennsylvania**

Tom Butzler has advised Master Gardener programs, served on statewide MG committees, conducted tests in vegetable fields, solved emerging problems, and conducted Pest Walks to landscapers. His information is disseminated through a newspaper column (Keeping It Green), blog (Gardening in the Keystone State), and podcast (Horticultural Happenings).

### **John Rowehl, Pennsylvania**

John Rowehl is an agronomy agent with additional program responsibilities in potatoes, soil conservation, water quality and farm safety. He became the first Pennsylvania agent to become a Certified Crop Advisor and served as a regional agent specializing in grain crop management.

### **Craig W. Yohn, West Virginia**

Craig Yohn is currently a committee member for the Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School. By rejuvenating a Coop, beef producers have realized a \$40,000 savings. Through technology, producers have been introduced to precision agriculture, farm management with PDA's and commodity marketing.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **Laura Hunsberger, Maryland**

Laura Hunsberger's responsibilities include fruits, vegetables, small farms and organic agriculture for a tri-county area. Her research is focused upon organic production of edamame, organic weed management and value-added promotion and marketing. She conducts cooking demonstrations, focusing on local, in-season produce as well as on teaching about basic agricultural education.

### **Tina Savage, New Hampshire**

Tina Savage provides livestock and poultry education statewide in addition to typical general agriculture duties of a county-based educator. Program focus includes: animal health, small flock poultry management, and pasture management. Recent programming was “First Aid for Livestock, What to do until the Vet arrives.”

### **Brian Oleksak, New Jersey**

Brian Oleksak serves as Agricultural Program Associate to meet the changing clientele needs for diverse horticultural programs. He coordinates the Sussex Master Gardener program and has trained over 220 volunteers. Brian also serves as a co-chair for the North Jersey Ornamental Horticulture Symposium, a green industry training conference.

### **Shawn Bossard, New York**

Through programming for crop meetings and farm research projects evaluating tillage and manure systems, Shawn Bossard is active in ag environmental issues and farmland protection. He served as President of the New York State Agri-Business Association. Shawn achieved an MBA from SUNY Oswego.

### **Linda Saussy Wiles, Pennsylvania**

Linda Saussy develops programs such as “Weather Issues” for commercial clients, Master Gardener training for volunteers, “Deer-Resistant Plants” for consumers, and sustainable landscaping via “Gardening in the Poconos” and work with open-space initiatives. As an active participant in PACAA, Linda represents PACAA as a regional board member.

### **Brian Wickline, West Virginia**

Marketing is one of the key components of Brian Wickline's program. Niche marketing agricultural products on a statewide basis is one of his main focuses. He works closely with twenty-one producers who market more than 1,000 calves annually through the local calf marketing pool.

## **SOUTHERN REGION**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Michael A. Davis, Alabama**

As a Livestock/Forage Extension Agent in three Alabama counties and a Regional Extension Specialist for The West Central Black Belt Region of Alabama, Michael Davis was instrumental in developing the first forage bull test in Alabama and the Nation in 1979. He started a stocker grazing system and grazing schools across Alabama.

#### **John S. Pulliam, Alabama**

For approximately 27 years, John Pulliam dedicated knowledge, time, and talent to the clientele in Pike and Macon Counties. His efforts focused on forestry, home lawns, gardening, tree care, fish pond management, the Carver Sweet Potato Festival, farmers' market, beef cattle management, emu, cotton, and Treasure Forestry.

#### **Andy Vangilder, Arkansas**

Andy Vangilder's primary programs have been in row crops with major emphasis in cotton. Other crops he has worked in have been rice, corn, soybeans, wheat, and grain sorghum. Forages and horticulture, as well as working with youth and 4-Hers, have also been important.

#### **Carla Vaught, Arkansas**

Focusing on livestock production, Carla Vaught has conducted successful programs for both youth and adults in Arkansas Extension. A pioneer in Arkansas Extension, she holds the title of most tenured female county agriculture agent, first female ACAA president, and now first female DSA winner from Arkansas.

#### **Jacque W. Breman, Florida**

Jacque Breman helped organize the Northeast Florida Beef Forage Group and develop/promote freeze-tolerant Bahiagrass. He is part of

Hastings Partnership developing bio-fuel crops in three counties. Jacque's international work includes 4-H Youth (Commonwealth of Dominica), tobacco (Belize), peanut/vegetable (Haiti), and tropical fruit (Haiti).

#### **Gerald R. Edmondson, Florida**

Gerald Edmondson's program emphasis for 22 years focused on agronomic crop/vegetable production, animal sciences, forages and natural resources. He conducts numerous on-farm demonstrations for cotton, peanut and vegetable varieties, tillage demonstrations and wildlife food plot trials for natural resources field days.

#### **Eugene McAvoy, Florida**

Empowering people to solve their horticultural and production related problems has been Gene McAvoy's prime motivation as an Extension Agent. He is CED in Hendry County, and he has served with IFAS Extension for eleven years as Regional Vegetable/Horticulture Agent in Southwest Florida addressing critical issues in the commercial vegetable industry.

#### **Jim F. Crawford, Georgia**

Jim Crawford uses a variety of teaching methods to educate growers and livestock producers including result demonstration plots, commodity updates, timely on-site meetings, clinics, the Master Cattleman Program, newspaper columns and radio programs. He also served on the original committee to plan and implement a state heifer development program.

#### **Ricky Ensley, Georgia**

Drought, decreasing farmland, increased water demands, point source pollution and decreased water quality are problems that come with the population of Northwest Georgia where Ricky Ensley works. His educational programming focuses on water quality, agricultural awareness, row crop production, and beef.

**Laura Perry Johnson, Georgia**

Dr. Laura Perry Johnson is the 4-H Program Development Coordinator for 41 counties in Southwest Georgia. She works with county-based faculty to provide 4-H programming, mentors and trains agents and program assistants, gives leadership to developing County Plans of Work, and coordinates district and statewide events.

**John H. Pope, Georgia**

John Pope has worked to enhance educational programming that fosters better production management and marketing among livestock and forage producers. He helped organize the Monroe County Cattlemen's Association, County Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development Program, and implemented an annual Hay Quality Program contest.

**Susan Fox, Kentucky**

Susan Fox's educational programs have included FSA Financial Management Workshops, Dairy Heifer Workshops, Dairy Days, Mastitis Schools, developing rations for dairy farmers, working with 4-H dairy clubs, the regional Forest Stewardship Program and Alternative Enterprise Workshops.

**Greg Tompkins, Kentucky**

Greg Tompkins wrote the county plan of action required by the Kentucky Legislature that designated state money allocated to counties to diversify tobacco farms. He administered the county Agriculture Diversification Program by leading the county Cattlemen's Association, county Farm Bureau, and others in developing strategies to increase net farm income.

**Shaney Hill, Louisiana**

Shaney Hill has developed broiler seminars and excelled in assisting 4-H members with Beef Grazing Projects. She teaches teamwork through Character Education and believes in developing the children first with animals as an

added bonus. Hill received the 2007 Nicholls State University Agricultural Alumnus Award.

**Richard M. Letlow, Louisiana**

Richard Letlow has served the LSU Ag Center as Research Associate, 4-H Agent and currently as Agriculture Agent. He also has assisted with research on soybean irrigation, provided leadership for 4-H youth educational programs, conducted on-farm demonstration on soil compaction, varieties, nematodes and many other management practices.

**Boyd Padgett, Louisiana**

Boyd Padgett has devoted his time toward educating the agricultural community in the area of disease management. He has accomplished this in part by presenting information at over 120 meetings and through 200 publications. Boyd also is active in the nationwide effort to monitor Asian soybean rust.

**John T. Giesemann, Mississippi**

Dr. John Giesemann's primary statewide responsibility for training is computer applications for Extension personnel and clientele. He is also responsible for Animal Science programming, especially livestock/horse shows and sales, Master Gardener activities database, GIS/GPS programming, and Entomology Camp activities.

**Nelson Brownlee, North Carolina**

Nelson Brownlee's programming efforts include recordkeeping and financial management, and alternative enterprises and outreach. His use of advisory committees, environmental scans and surveys to plan, implement and evaluate county programs has kept him at the forefront of the agricultural community.

**Jeff Carpenter, North Carolina**

Jeff Carpenter serves livestock producers in Catawba, Lincoln and Gaston counties in North Carolina. He has developed highly successful programs for beef cattle producers on utilizing by-

product feeds, marketing of feeder calves and replacement heifers, and in 4-H youth livestock.

### **Ron Hughes, North Carolina**

Ron Hughes is a valuable resource during the switch from backyard hog farming to large-scale contact swine production, beef growers expansion of cow/calf operations, and development of the small ruminates industry. His programs have served people hungry for information who needed to be successful in emerging livestock enterprises.

### **Diana Rashash, North Carolina**

Diana Rashash was one of the first agents in the state to be hired primarily for environmental education duties. Her major educational programs include animal waste management, storm water and erosion control, human wastewater, surface water quality, environmental sustainability, and invasive aquatic weed control.

### **Charles M. Young, North Carolina**

Charles Young has enabled livestock producers, both youth and adult, to better understand the management skills, decision making processes and financial management of the livestock industry in Ashe County. He has created interest through the Youth Livestock Program and helped obtain an exposition center to develop an educational/show facility for agricultural events.

### **Mick Jones, Oklahoma**

Targeted programs for Mick Jones include beef cattle, forages, consumer/commercial horticulture and rural economic development. He started the Bi-annual Central Oklahoma Cattle Conference in 2001 and helped form the first county Grape Growers Association in Oklahoma.

### **Gary Strickland, Oklahoma**

Gary Strickland has spent time in both research and Extension programs in his career. In his

current position, Gary has a large field demonstration program that deals with various aspects of crop management systems. He is a board member of the Western Oklahoma State College Agriculture Advisory Group.

### **Daniel M. Howard, South Carolina**

Daniel Howard has worked with Auburn, Georgia, and Clemson University Extension Services in Agriculture & Natural Resources. He is a certified beekeeper and received the County Agent of the Year Award in 2007 from the S.C. Beekeepers Association.

### **Mark J. Talbert, South Carolina**

Mark Talbert's programs include livestock/forestry associations, intensive controlled grazing, Junior and Master Gardeners, Palmetto Leadership, 4-H Livestock Judging, 4-H Jr. Leadership, Drip Irrigation, Fire Ant Demonstrations, Keep Fairfield Beautiful, and Environmental Sustainability.

### **Emmanuel Bedwell, Tennessee**

Emmanuel Bedwell has served in Hamblen County Tennessee for 16 years as a 4-H Youth Development Agent, Adult Agriculture Agent, and currently serves as County Director. He is an active member of the state association and represents his region on the state board.

### **Keith Hart, Tennessee**

As a County Extension Director, Keith Hart's program areas include adult agriculture, community resource development, beef, forages, tobacco, nursery and Christmas tree production. Other leadership responsibilities include being a member of the National 4-H Forestry Invitational Committee plus several state Extension committees.

### **Tim Roberts, Tennessee**

Tim Roberts has worked extensively to provide programs which are educational and beneficial to county stakeholders. In his current position, he has built an agriculture and environmental education

program that not only provides information to youth and adults of Shelby County but includes multi-state audiences.

### **Philip W. Shelby, Tennessee**

Philip Shelby is involved annually in county Standardized Variety Testing (CST) with wheat, corn, soybeans, and cotton. Agents involved in the CST coordinate with cooperating producers in selecting fields, planting, managing and harvesting of CST. 3.1 million dollars additional income resulted from selecting superior hybrid/varieties.

### **Eddie Baggs, Texas**

Eddie Baggs exemplifies diversity, dedication and perseverance qualities. His projects include bringing agriculture producers together with the bio-fuel industry, working extensively with the North Texas Clean Air Coalition, developing and conducting effective and diverse programs in all areas of Extension, and addressing the needs of current and future constituents.

### **Rachel Williams Bauer, Texas**

Rachel Williams Bauer's programming efforts have focused on beef cattle, forage production, natural resource management and 4-H livestock. She also maintains yearly curriculum programs teaching youth about water, agriculture, and natural science. Rachel has been recognized as an Outstanding Young Agriculture Agent and received the Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence.

### **Mark Currie, Texas**

Mark Currie has provided innovative educational programs to agricultural producers, county citizens, and 4-H & Youth groups in the counties he has served. His major program emphasis has been on beef cattle and forage production with the goal of maximizing producer profitability.

### **Thomas "Tom" Leroy, Texas**

Tom LeRoy has exhibited outstanding leadership ability in the development and implementation of a volunteer management strategy through the Master Gardener Program. He was recognized with two Superior Service Awards as well as a recognition award from the Texas Master Gardeners for his innovative approach to volunteer management.

### **Rogelio Mercado, Texas**

Rogelio Mercado works with producers in the areas of beef cattle, wildlife, row crop and forage production but is most proud of his accomplishments in community development. Rogelio's collaboration with commissioners and the Fair Association has resulted in close to half a million dollars of renovations and additions to their fairground facilities.

### **Curtis Preston, Texas**

Curtis Preston has influenced production and marketing methods currently utilized by producers in the Bailey County area. In 2005, Plains Cotton Growers recognized Curtis as the High Plains Outstanding Cotton Agent. Other recognition includes the Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence and the TCE Specialists Association County Extension Agent Distinguished Achievement Award.

### **Donald J. Davis, Virginia**

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners in Lynchburg work with Donald Davis to assist homeowners. He also works with local nurseries and landscapers as well as other producers with horticulture enterprises. Donald has a strong pesticide education program for private and commercial applicators.

### **Cynthia L. Gregg, Virginia**

Cynthia Gregg has conducted educational workshops and demonstrations for livestock and forage producers, VCE Master Gardeners, pond owners, and pesticide applicators. She has worked

with youth livestock projects and is respected for her organizational skills and being a team player.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **Claude E. Reeves, Alabama**

An aquaculturist, Claude Reeves provides programming with fish pond, fish management and commercial fish production services, water quality analyses, recreational pond management, ornamental ponds, raising catfish and tilapia, and identification and control of aquatic plants. He also works with high school instructors in establishing recirculating aquaculture systems in their programs.

### **Michael D. Reeves, Alabama**

Michael Reeves worked directly with fruit and vegetable producers assisting them with production problems. Home horticulture activities have included gardening classes and workshops as well as responding to questions and concerns of county residents. The urban assignment has allowed him to establish and coordinate gardens throughout the county.

### **Sherry Beaty, Arkansas**

Sherry Beaty's programs are in the areas of beef and forages, forestry production, goat production, 4-H livestock, and environmental stewardship. Beyond traditional programming, she has successfully implemented an IPM program, where cattle producers utilize goats for weed and brush control while goat producers receive value-added income through leasing their goats.

### **Susan Scott, Arkansas**

Whether writing newsletters, conducting Junior Master Gardeners, agriculture education with city youth, developing glyphosate resistant horseweed control programs, or organizing one of the first Extension programs aimed at preventing off-target movement of herbicides,

Susan Scott has displayed the skills of a county agent beyond her years of experience.

### **Alejandro "Alex" Bolques, Florida**

Alex Bolques' Extension major program areas address nursery production and BMP's, small farm assistance and alternative farm enterprises, and the establishment of a county Master Gardener Volunteer Program. He has been recognized with the 2003 (1890) System-wide Extension AA and the 2004 Farm Credit/FACAA Young Professional Award, FAMU/Extension and UF/IFAS Extension.

### **Jennifer Welshans-Pelham, Florida**

Jennifer Welshans-Pelham responsibilities include urban and commercial horticulture, Master Gardener coordinator, and pesticide applicator training. She is proudest of her ReLeaf Osceola program which received \$163,500 from the U.S. Forest Service for educational programs and replacement trees related to 2004 hurricane losses.

### **Jeremy Kichler, Georgia**

Jeremy Kichler has served as a collaborator on numerous applied research projects which have been presented regionally and nationally. He also has been instrumental in educating growers about herbicide resistance and how to manage Glyphosate Resistant Palmer Amaranth which was confirmed in Macon County, Georgia in 2005.

### **Wade Parker, Georgia**

Wade Parker's programs are in the areas of conservation tillage and bio-fuel research. Crop residue has surfaced as a possible source of bio-fuel production, and Wade has sponsored programs that have helped farmers be successful in managing crops in high residue environments. His on-going farm research studies the effects on soil amendments.

### **Michael Wheeler, Georgia**

Michael Wheeler uses the apple IPM program to monitor insects and disease. Growers and state

specialists from UGA, NCSU and UT are able to evaluate changing conditions throughout the summer by using the IPM web site. Soil and leaf tissue reports are given to the growers to improve their orchard nutrient status.

### **Brandon Bell, Kentucky**

Brandon Bell works extensively with commercial producers, homeowners, and agri-businesses in the county, and he was instrumental in the development of the Metcalfe County Agriculture Marketing and Expo Center County Farmers' Market. Brandon collaborates with community development groups such as the Edmonton - Metcalfe County Chamber of Commerce.

### **Vicki Shadrick, Kentucky**

Vicki Shadrick's program focus includes Agriculture and Natural Resources where the primary commodities are corn, soybeans, wheat, tobacco and beef cattle; Integrated Pest Management; fertility management for corn, soybeans and pasture; beef and forage improvement; and Hurricane Relief Efforts for cattle producers.

### **David Bourgeois, Louisiana**

David Bourgeois' programs include natural fisheries, aquaculture, wetlands issues and seafood. He conducts annual pond workshops and a 4-H sport fishing program where over 50 volunteers were certified as instructors. David has educated numerous teachers and hundreds of students in growing wetlands plants for small restoration projects.

### **John Anderson, Mississippi**

Dr. John Anderson's program in commodity marketing emphasizes risk management for livestock and grain producers. He also develops agricultural policy educational material helping evaluate the effects of existing and proposed government programs. Dr. Anderson was on faculty at the University of Kentucky.

### **Mike Howell, Mississippi**

Mike Howell started in his current position in August 2003 and assists growers with a variety of programming in crop and forage production in Southeast Mississippi. He also has statewide peanut responsibilities.

### **Amy Andrews, North Carolina**

Amy Andrews does educational programs for diverse livestock and forage audiences, focuses on the economic prosperity of farms, and has fostered environmental stewardship. She serves the area livestock and horse owners and works with her fellow livestock agents in developing higher quality programs and producing newsletters.

### **Silas Brown, North Carolina**

Silas Brown's programming efforts include the Tri-State Livestock Educational Series, alternative energy, agriculture in the middle school curriculum, Master Gardeners, pesticide education and community and resource development. Through multi-county team efforts, Silas has helped form unique partnerships with Extension Agents and Specialists from TN, GA and AL.

### **Keith B. Walters, North Carolina**

Keith Walters' program efforts have resulted in Hoke County farmers implementing new tillage practices that saved more than \$1,500,000 since 1999 and the recycling of more than 55,788 pounds of pesticide containers by farmers over the last eight years to protect the environment.

### **Darren C. Atkins, South Carolina**

Darren Atkins provides forest landowners with the tools required to achieve their individual management goals to insure profitability. Youth audiences have also been at the forefront of his programming as forest sustainability is a primary focus for the forest industry on which Newberry County thrives.

### **Tracey Sullivan, Tennessee**

Tracey Sullivan tailors her programs to meet those changing educational needs to include variety testing of wheat, corn, and soybeans, as well as new cotton technologies. She is recognized as an agriculture authority among her peers and producers in Haywood County indicative by well-attended producer meetings and field days.

### **Jeremy West, Tennessee**

Jeremy West has worked with Scott County Forage Producers by conducting forage weed control demonstration plots, field days, annual forage testing meetings, Master Beef Producer Trainings and Multi-County Cow College with topics on nutrition, production, environmental concerns, and record keeping. He also has chaired regional and area youth livestock events.

### **Samuel Gavito, Texas**

Samuel Gavito has developed relationships with landowners interested in white-tailed deer management and has demonstrations, field days, producer meetings, and uses the media to introduce the most recent research and data for making sound management decisions. He works heavily with the 4-H, beef cattle, range management, and water quality issues.

### **Chad Gulley, Texas**

Chad Gulley provides educational programs by using demonstration work, field days, producer meetings, media relations, personal contact with producers, breakfast programs, and small acreage landowner workshops. He also spends a great deal of time assisting in the 4-H Youth Development Program in various areas such as leadership, livestock, and shooting sports.

### **Jay Kingston, Texas**

Jay Kingston's programming efforts have been in range and wildlife management, forage production, livestock management, 4-H, and

community development. He conducts demonstrations and accomplishes program goals through a variety of educational events including field days, producer seminars, web pages, newsletters and personal contacts.

### **Bruce G. Jones, Virginia**

Professional and knowledge, just two words to describe Bruce Jones' commitment to the Agriculture program. He is involved with on-farm demonstrations and research plots, workshops, tours, and educational programs to meet the needs of tobacco and other crop producers.

### **Glenn R. Slade, Virginia**

Glenn Slade's expertise has helped producers grow small grains, vegetables, soybeans, timber, hay, livestock and more. He works with homeowners as the community becomes more urban. Glenn assists coworkers with 4-H programming related to agriculture and is well respected by coworkers, peers, clientele, and community leaders.

## **Western Region**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Jim Sprinkle, Arizona**

Jim Sprinkle's main program, Reading the Range, developed to monitor 33 ranches on 900,000 acres. He has authored/coauthored 6 refereed journal articles, 29 refereed Extension publications, 5 educational handbooks, 70 Extension reports, 5 software decision packages, and other educational materials.

#### **Tommy L. Covington, Colorado**

Tommy Covington is responsible for agriculture, horticulture, natural resources and shares the 4-H Youth Development duties and working with the Holy Cross Abbey Winery in Canon City. He has helped the staff develop a series of Viticulture Workshops that have been instrumental in

increasing grape production and providing an alternative crop option for small acreage owners.

### **Kenneth N. Hart, Idaho**

Kenneth Hart conducts programs in farm financial management, crop production, 4-H youth development, leads FSA Borrower and NxLevel Entrepreneur Training, and consults in Belarus and Moldova. Crop production focus is on fertility research for small grains, and his “Pasture Management for Smaller Acreages” has been a successful program.

### **J. David Graham, New Mexico**

David Graham started his career as a Vo. Ag. Teacher in Union County, New Mexico in 1968 through 1971 then served as New Mexico State FFA Executive Secretary in 1972 and 1973. He became Union County Agricultural Agent in August of 1973 and today remains in that same position.

### **Troy Downing, Oregon**

Troy Downing’s efforts have been in work with the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association to organize and implement an industry-sponsored manure management program; he conducted six applied research trials to look at structural and non-structural carbohydrates in grasses; and he has made four Extension dairy trips to Russia.

### **Troy Dick Cooper, Utah**

Troy Cooper’s program areas are agriculture, horticulture and 4-H. He has developed successful agricultural programs, youth program, and PAWS-ON which is an environment educational program that provides hands-on experiences. In 2007, the program benefited an estimated 3,833 students and 1,086 adults.

### **Aaron Esser, Washington**

Aaron Esser utilized on-farm testing to actively engage producers and lead to adoption of new practices. Over the past ten years, he has

conducted 126 on-farm tests on over 1,300 acres to address best management practices regarding reduction of wind erosion, crop production questions, and most importantly, to facilitate lifelong learning.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **Jeffrey Smeenk, Alaska**

Jeffrey Smeenk has established a collection of novel potatoes to identify varieties with niche marketing opportunities along with a state-of-the-art tissue culture facility. He also established a high tunnel project to extend the growing season and increase the diversity of crops.

### **Randall Norton, Arizona**

Randall Norton is responsible for field crops research and educational programming while directing research activities. He’s provided valuable information to help regional growers improve their sustainability and profitability and secured over \$650,000 in grants and gifts. Randy has authored/coauthored over 90 research reports, 4 refereed journal articles, and made numerous presentations.

### **K. Scott Jensen, Idaho**

Scott Jensen has a positive outlook, contributes great ideas, supports colleagues and continues to make an impact in many programs. He plays an integral role in two nationally recognized Extension programs: Lost Rivers Grazing Academy and Living on the Land which is a small acreage stewardship program.

### **Eric Miller, Montana**

Eric Miller has been instrumental in starting the Noxious Weed Prevention Area. He instructs GPS/GIS technologies for everyone from landowners to various emergency response teams. Eric also assists with computer and related technology issues throughout the community, alternative forage crops, livestock rations, range

management and community development issues.

technology, has earned him the respect of colleagues and industry friends.

### **Ursula Rosauer, New Mexico**

Ursula Rosauer has developed natural resource programs on range, timber, wildlife, fire, and water for ranchers and other community members, on three national forests and BLM lands as well as nine pueblos in NM. She received the annual Vaquero Award from the Northern NM Stockman's Association.

### **Amy Derby, Oregon**

The combination of Amy Derby's agriculture background, her love of the outdoors, horses, and 4-H, inspired her to develop the Oregon 4-H Horse Camp, a non-competitive, educational program that focuses on youth camping with their horses while learning useful life and technical skills.

### **Clark Israelsen, Utah**

A native of Cache County and former Vo Ag instructor and Farm Business Management advisor, Clark Israelsen knows virtually every agriculturist in his county. He was raised on a diversified crop and livestock farm and has gratefully continued his ties with agriculture.

### **Steve Van Vleet, Washington**

Steve Van Vleet served as Extension educator for agriculture and natural resources to benefit the agriculture industry and the needs of local growers. He has gained a positive reputation for work in managed grazing, invasive plant control and bio-energy production. Steve also has published a peer-validated article and a widely-distributed Extension booklet.

### **Steve Paisley, Wyoming**

Steve Paisley is informed and dedicated to the Stocker Cattle Industry as an educator in Wyoming. Steve's dedication to using ultrasound as a tool to gather performance data, as well as the practical application of other management

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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS

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## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

#### **Judith “Judy” M. Taylor, Illinois**

Judy Taylor provides state-wide leadership to character education, developing resources such as *Terrific Teachable Moments*, and chairing on-going efforts such as the Illinois State Schools of Character. She also contributes to numerous 4-H volunteer management efforts, including the state’s VALUED Volunteers orientation and training. Judy’s programming has consistently produced impact.

#### **Renee K. McKee, Indiana**

Renee McKee began her career with the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service in 1977 as a 4-H Youth Development/CFS Educator. She also served as an Extension Volunteerism Specialist and currently serves as an Assistant Director of Extension and State 4-H Program Leader.

#### **David Seilstad, Iowa**

A 2001 DSA award winner, David Seilstad’s commitment to educating youth about new technologies, such as biotechnology, space exploration, and renewable energy keeps 4-H relevant. His ability to collaborate on the local, state, and national level has made him a key figure in the direction youth programming has taken in Iowa.

#### **Pat A. McNally, Kansas**

Dr. Pat McNally, Assistant Director of 4-H Youth Development for Kansas, has served 34 years in Oklahoma, Iowa, and Kansas.

#### **Don Nicholson, Missouri**

Don Nicholson has been a leader in youth and adult challenge programming and in Missouri’s 4-H camp evaluation effort.

#### **Debra E. Schroeder, Nebraska**

“Preventing Credit Card Blues,” co-authored and taught by Debra Schroeder, has helped 1800 high school seniors prevent credit challenges. Noted for diabetes education, Debra developed a display on sugar in beverages reaching 730 youth and adults who resolved to reduce their consumption of sugared beverages thus, reducing their risk of developing diabetes.

#### **Brad Cogdill, North Dakota**

Brad Cogdill is the Chair and Administrator for the NDSU Extension Center for 4-H Youth Development. His areas of expertise include Administration; Leadership Development; Youth Development; Program Development and Evaluation for 4-H Youth Development. Brad serves as Director for Cass County and is the county chair for the 4-H program.

#### **Julie Dalzell, Ohio**

Julie Dalzell established an extensive county 4-H Scholarship and Awards program; specialization in Volunteer Development and Training, and committee leadership development.

#### **Vera Boje, South Dakota**

For Vera Boje, utilizing 4-H life skills education in traditional and non-traditional programming has helped to develop future community leaders. Knowing she has made a difference in a child’s life is Vera’s career reward.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

### **Catherine Blunier, Illinois**

As a 4-H Youth Development Educator, Catherine Blunier is responsible for working with local committees, 4-H club leaders, and other youth professionals to organize, implement and evaluate Woodford County's 4-H youth development program. The program serves 469 club members and nearly 3,000 other youth who participate in camp, school enrichment and more.

### **Vietfen Virginia Kuo, Illinois**

Vietfen Virginia Kuo led the local 4-H program, was active with NAE4-HA/IEPYE, served in 18 committees, participated in 36 PDOs, and delivered numerous workshops locally/nationally. Innovative programs/ partnerships included Service-Learning, Character Education, PLSPV, with thousands of youth participation. Vietfen initiated an international PDO and received \$132,170 in grants.

### **John Emerson, Indiana**

John Emerson has served as a Purdue Extension 4-H Youth Development Educator in LaGrange County, IN since 1999. In addition to delivery of educational services at the traditional 4-H club project level, he has conducted programming in partnership with public and private schools, other youth-serving organizations, and adult groups.

### **Scott P. Foster, Indiana**

During ten years of Extension service, Scott Foster has dedicated his efforts delivering programs to youth in the fields of environmental science, technology, finance and agriculture. He thanks his colleagues for their efforts toward making his programs successful and beneficial to youth development.

### **Amy Nierman, Indiana**

Amy Nierman teaches and organizes several school enrichment programs including Professor Popcorn, Project LEAD, and Windowsill

Gardening. She also has created innovative programs including an after-school Kids in the Kitchen program and a 4-H recruitment event entitled 4-H Carnival of Fun. To her credit, 4-H membership has increased by 39%.

### **Judy Hensley, Iowa**

Judy Hensley's passion for youth programming and her ability to serve as a facilitating leader has highlighted her career. Whether it's club work, addressing the needs of family, or community enrichment, Judy's commitment to the needs of youth and her innovative ideas have made her an invaluable asset to 4-H.

### **Andrea Schmidt, Kansas**

Andrea Schmidt has completed nine years of service. Her areas of focus have been mentoring, leadership, and health and wellness.

### **Janis K. Brinn, Michigan**

Janis Brinn has focused on the Equestrian Helmet Safety Program, LABO Japanese Exchange Program, and Therapeutic Equestrian Riding Program. She is co-chair of the MSUE Global/Cultural Education Priority Team and has served as the NCR NAE4-HA Diversity Chair. Janis also has received the MAE4HYS Team, Presidential, Diversity, Distinguished Service and International Awards.

### **Tina Fleming, Michigan**

Highlights of Tina Fleming's efforts include Brighter Futures community service projects, mentorship programs, curriculum and program development - New Adventures Together Using Our Environment, serving as State 4-H Military Liaison developing 4-H clubs on military bases and is Operation: Military Kids State Program Director. Tina received the 2005 MAE4HYS Distinguished Service Award.

**Lynna J. Lawson, Missouri**

Lynna Lawson's passion is reaching underserved audiences. She started the 4-H LIFE program to help youth connect with their incarcerated parents.

**Tracy L. Kulm, Nebraska**

Tracy Kulm is in her 11<sup>th</sup> year as a 4-H Extension Associate in Lancaster County, Nebraska. She has been an active member of NAE4-H and NCEA. Her primary role is Family & Consumer Sciences, static 4-H projects, club management, leader training, volunteer recruitment, 4-H Council and 4-H Teen Council.

**Amy Peterson, Nebraska**

In the classroom, at workshops, or at the fair, helping kids learn what they can do in 4-H has been the focus of Amy Peterson's 4-H Extension career. She currently serves as State 4-H Food Superintendent, belongs to the 4-H Curriculum Committee, and the Leadership Team planning the 2011 NAE4H-A Conference in Omaha.

**Krista Sundquist-Littlefield, North Dakota**

Krista Sundquist-Littlefield successfully maintains a county 4-H program including communication arts, consumer choices, showcase, achievement days and technology program. She provides leadership to a county-wide school program encouraging healthy eating and physical activity. Krista provides support to the North Dakota State Fair 4-H program and co-chairs the state Clover Shop store.

**Kathleen E. Booher, Ohio**

Kathleen Booher collaborates with two after-school programs to conduct 4-H programming for over 200 youth. She is the Director for regional Teen Camp providing teens an opportunity to explore in-depth activities and meet youth from counties in northern Ohio. Kathleen also facilitated a process for revitalization of the Ottawa County Jr. Fair.

**Theresa M. Ferrari, Ohio**

Theresa Ferrari served on the National After-school Leadership Team, established a successful 4-H Military Program in Ohio, and advises graduate students in Extension Education. Her career has included county positions in Maine, state positions in Michigan, Florida, and Ohio, and she is currently working at National 4-H Headquarters with military partnerships.

**Brian Raison, Ohio**

Brian Raison carries dual appointments in 4-H Youth and Community Development with Ohio State University Extension. Along with \$1,200,000 in grants, his research has focused on adolescent development and teen online social networking. Brian's award-winning curriculum, *College 101: Strategies for 1<sup>st</sup> Year Success*, has reached 500+ locations in 36 states.

**Sonia Mack, South Dakota**

Sonia Mack began in Deuel County in October 2000. She has been involved with several programs, receiving an Extension Directors' Team Award, Meritorious Service award, and the state Excellence in Camping Award.

**Annette Bjorklund, Wisconsin**

Annette Bjorklund brings enthusiasm to her local programming which includes traditional and after-school 4-H clubs, youth serving on the county board and helping students and parents manage the transition to college. She shares her interest in fiber arts with 4-H members and anyone else who wants to learn.

**Debra Ivey, Wisconsin**

Debra Ivey's work focuses on youth development programs that engage youth in opportunities for learning, service and leadership and working with community coalitions to increase positive opportunities for participation. She served on the SRP and Research committees in the

Department of Youth Development and is on the state 4-H Curriculum committee.

### **Steven F. Kinzel, Wisconsin**

Steven Kinzel has made contributions to Extension in Michigan as a Natural Resources and Public Policy Specialist, Instructor of Continuing Education, and 4-H Associate Program Director. In Wisconsin, he served as the 4-H State Program Leader, 4-H Youth Development Specialist for Natural Resources Programs, and many other roles.

## **ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE**

### **Donna Nuger, Illinois**

Donna Nuger delivers programs through multiple delivery modes. Program areas include environmental science, technology, community safety, and volunteer development.

### **Roberta D. Crabtree, Indiana**

Roberta Crabtree has been a 4-H Youth Development Educator for eight years. She has been in her position in Tippecanoe County, Lafayette, Indiana for seven years. A program that Roberta helps coordinate is TNT – Tippecanoe Notable Teens. Teams of five students come from each high school and participate in leadership training, project planning, diversity, and communications among other activities.

### **Neasa Kalme, Indiana**

Neasa Kalme has served six years in Steuben County, Indiana as the 4-H Youth Educator focusing on both leadership and youth development. Neasa has recruited many members to take advantage of the journey 4-H provides through 4-H club leadership positions, project workshops, trips, and involvement in Junior Leaders and Junior Fair Board.

### **Keli Whitaker, Indiana**

Keli Whitaker has served as the 4-H Youth Educator in White County, Indiana for four years. Through her time as educator, she has focused on training both youth and adult volunteers by offering several workshops. Keli has started several new project workshops and recently revamped the after-school program in her county.

### **Melissa Thimesch, Kansas**

Melissa Thimesch has been with Extension for three years. She has an active traditional program in Butler County, El Dorado, Kansas.

### **Rebecca Meyer, Minnesota**

Rebecca Meyer received the ESP Early Career award, co-authored the “Building Environmental Youth Leadership” curriculum, and co-chairs Minnesota’s 4-H Camping Initiative.

### **Mary Anne Patten, Missouri**

Mary Anne's mission in her 4-H career is to provide growth opportunities for youth that are available only through 4-H.

### **Bradley S. Barker, Ph.D, Nebraska**

Dr. Bradley Barker, is an assistant professor and 4-H Youth Development Specialist for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is PI of the NSF-funded *Robotics and GPS/GIS in 4-H: Workforce Skills for the 21st Century* project. Dr. Barker's research focuses on the use of robotics in informal learning environments.

### **Sonya L. Glup, Nebraska**

In Boone, Nance, and Merrick counties, Sonya Glup strengthens the 4-H program through offering workshops, recruitment events, leader trainings, and after-school programs. Seeking and acquiring grant monies for youth related programs has been one of her top focuses. Sonya also serves as the State 4-H Section Secretary and Assistant State Fair Meat Goat Superintendent.

**Craig Askim, North Dakota**

Craig Askim has been a member of North Dakota 4-H Youth Workers Association for six years. He has served on the Western 4-H Camp oversight committee and camp association board and also as Co-camp Chairman for the Outdoor Skills Camp.

**Paul S. Kuber, Ohio**

Paul Kuber, a faculty member with an emphasis on youth development, gives leadership to food animal production education, including youth quality assurance.

**Minnie E. Taylor, Ohio**

Minnie Taylor provides leadership to the county 4-H program. She also cultivates new urban partnerships aimed at recruiting diverse adult and youth volunteers from new urban areas.

**Jo Williams, Ohio**

Jo Williams works with camp, Cloverbud, school enrichment, and older youth programs. She has a special interest in teaching tolerance.

**Audrey Jo Rider, South Dakota**

Audrey Jo Ridder loves working with the 4-H clubs and youth in her county. She is married and lives in the country.

**Ellen Andrews, Wisconsin**

Ellen Andrews has programmed in rural and urban communities, supported traditional 4-H clubs, and community-based outreach and service-learning.

**Chris Viau, Wisconsin**

Chris Viau has dedicated his career to the development of sustainable 4-H organizations and the members and volunteers to lead them.

**25 YEARS OF SERVICE****Linda R. Aldridge, Indiana**

Linda Aldridge has served Huntington County as Extension Educator, 4-H Youth since April 1982. Under her leadership, 4-H programs and volunteer leadership have grown through community clubs, Mini 4-H, school enrichment and robotics. Linda serves on community boards and has represented Purdue Extension on local, state, and national levels promoting 4-H and life-long learning.

**Jeff Holland, Indiana**

Jeff Holland currently serves as the County Extension Director for Monroe County and works with communities to provide gang prevention education. He has been recognized as a Distinguished Service Award winner and Meritorious Service Award winner through NAE4-HA. Jeff has also served as President of the Indiana Extension Educators Association.

**Gary W. Gerhard, Ph.D., Kansas**

Dr. Gary Gerhard has worked as an agent, state specialist, and administrator in the 4-H youth development movement during his career.

**Cheri Booth, Michigan**

Dr. Cheri Booth progressed from county Family and Consumer Sciences Educator to 4-H State Leader. Her efforts include program emphasis redesign and regional linker development.

**Bradley Brummond, North Dakota**

Brad Brummond has successfully developed rabbit and poultry projects and provided members a chance to care for small animals.

**Michael Hansen, North Dakota**

During his career, Michael Hansen has always been involved in 4-H and has served as co-chair of the 2001 NAE4-HA National Conference.

**James L. Jordan, Ohio**

James Jordan is active in NAE4-HA and has attended every conference since 1983. His specializations are CARTEENS, Teen/Young Fathers, and Diversity Education.

**Steven F. Kinzel, Wisconsin**

Dr. Steven Kinzel has made contributions to Extension in Michigan as a Natural Resources and Public Policy Specialist, Instructor of Continuing Education, and 4-H Associate Program Director. In Wisconsin, he served as the 4-H State Program Leader, 4-H Youth Development Specialist for Natural Resources Programs, and many other roles.

**Sally Schoenike, Wisconsin**

Sally Schoenike is an innovative teacher while working with programs in her county, district and state. She is known for her Camp Counselor Training, Volunteer Leader Development, Officer Training, Record Book Guide, Friends Helping Friends Program, while developing strong club programs and meeting other needs including school enrichment and community programs.

**NORTHEAST REGION****MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD****Richard “Dick” Byrne, Maryland**

Dick Byrne recently completed a successful career in 4-H Youth Development. As 4-H Program Leader in Maryland, Dick has offered inspiring leadership and a contemporary vision for 4-H professionals and volunteers. Under his guidance, young people across the state have benefited from participation in 4-H.

**Eddie Locklear, National 4-H Council**

Dr. Eddie Locklear served as Robeson County 4-H Agent and State 4-H Specialist in North Carolina, and as National Director, 4-H After-school and 4-H SET, with the National 4-H

Council. His many roles have included being a fund raiser, innovator, educator, leader, administrator and mentor.

**Paula Gregory, New Hampshire**

As 4-H Youth Development Specialist, Paula Gregory provides leadership to New Hampshire projects targeting at-risk youth, CYFAR and 4-H After-school.

**Jeannette Rea-Keywood, New Jersey**

Jeannette Rea-Keywood capitalizes on her creativity, marketing skills, and ability to build partnerships to develop innovative programs, especially in environmental education.

**Mary L. Fairley, New York**

Mary Fairley is the epitome of a 4-H Educator, in Saratoga County, New York state. She reaches 12,000 to 15,000 youth each year in the programs she oversees throughout the Northeast region and in national activities.

**Janet I. Allis, Pennsylvania**

Leadership and communication skill development programs are the focus of Janet Allis and often in non-traditional settings. She has established 4-H clubs in housing projects, collaborated with schools on tobacco-free youth programs, conducted 4-H projects in after-school and summer programs, and developed a year-long leadership development program for juniors.

**Carol R. Schuller, West Virginia**

Through 35 years, Carol Schuller has developed and expanded West Virginia Extension Service's 4-H educational programs. Currently, she provides curriculum leadership.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD****Tom Tate, CSREES**

Tom Tate is an innovator in 4-H youth technology leadership programs. Working with 4-H staff and volunteers nationwide, his accomplishments

include 4-H Teens Teaching Internet Skills, 4-H Technology Leadership Teams, 4-H GIS/GPS Teams, and the National 4-H Technology Conference. Currently, Tom is the national program leader for Agriculture in the Classroom.

### **C. Douglas Crouse, Delaware**

Douglas Crouse superbly performs as an educator, conducting hundreds of trainings and programs during his tenure. He has been of the first to try new programming efforts, fully engaging 4-H after-school youth in on-going 4-H programs. Douglas also serves as the Kent County Extension Director giving leadership to county programming efforts.

### **Barbara A. Baker, Maine**

Barbara Baker is honored to have worked with youth and adult partners in New York and Maine for twelve years. She co-developed Youth Community Action as a New York State Signature Program and is encouraged by youth who are making a difference in our communities, our country, and our world.

### **Ruby Schwinn, Maryland**

Ruby Schwinn demonstrates her commitment to 4-H youth development through her work with clubs, military 4-H programs, and active involvement on state 4-H program committees. As coordinator of the Maryland State Fair Animal World, one of the most popular areas on the fairground, she gives teens leadership experience and promotes 4-H to thousands of families.

### **Paul Koehler, National 4-H Council**

Paul Koehler, senior vice president of the National 4-H Youth Conference Center, has consistently served 4-H through his leadership and commitment to 4-H youth visiting the Washington, DC metro area. During his 30-year tenure, Paul has mastered serving the 4-H youth customer by providing a safe, affordable and high quality national home.

### **Karen Mansue, New Jersey**

Throughout Karen Mansue's career, she has focused on volunteer development and family and consumer sciences. Most recently, she has spearheaded the revision of the 4-H Prep Curriculum and is actively involved on the leadership team for Get Moving – Get Healthy with New Jersey 4-H.

### **Brenda Carpenter, New York**

Brenda Carpenter has dedicated her 4-H career to expanding the audience base and image of the 4-H. "Pizza Project" and "Kritter Kamp," two examples of programs designed to meet youth needs in innovative ways. Brenda says "Her job is to make other people's dreams come true," and she does this well.

### **Catherine "Cathy" Brady, Pennsylvania**

Cathy Brady has provided leadership for 4-H/FCS programs in Fayette County since 1999 as the Extension Educator. She has strengthened the 4-H /Youth Development program by starting new 4-H clubs, recruiting and training adult volunteers, increasing leadership opportunities for teens, collaborating with other youth serving agencies, and establishing new 4-H endowments.

### **Dwayne A. Hay, Pennsylvania**

Dwayne Pennsylvania believes in nurturing and empowering people to stretch their potential in building relationships, accomplishing goals, and developing community. In the past four years, membership in traditional 4-H clubs has increased 10%, the volunteer base has increased 17%, and 4-H after-school programming is in all of the county's school districts.

### **Nila Cobb, West Virginia**

Nila Cobb is a WVUES 4-H Youth Development Assistant Extension Professor and County Educator in Cabell County. She is dedicated to changing the lives of the youth she serves, and her major training efforts revolve around teen

leadership and 4-H After-school. Nila also enjoys working as a mentor for new Extension agents.

### **Susan England-Lord, West Virginia**

For the past 28 years, Susan England-Lord has worked with the Wyoming County, West Virginia 4-H program. She aspires to provide access and opportunity for all youth in the rural, limited income county she serves. Susan's major goal is to make a difference in the lives of these young people.

## **ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE**

### **Suzanne Le Menestrel, CSREES**

As a developmental psychologist and researcher, Dr. Suzanne Le Menestrel, National Program Leader for Youth Development Research, at National 4-H Headquarters, CSREES/USDA, has strengthened research and evaluation efforts in 4-H. Her work has integrated and coordinated youth development research with program development, implementation and evaluation, and has connected 4-H to the youth development research field.

### **Katie Daly, Delaware**

Katie Daly remarkably executes her educator responsibilities through her love for youth and 4-H. She pioneers many new projects such as Criminal Justice Grants, international exchange programs, and healthy living initiatives. Katie also spearheads the residential state summer camping program and is a great asset to the 4-H program.

### **Leann Boyce, Maryland**

Leann Boyce works in Carroll County, Maryland. Her program areas include volunteer development, marketing, teen leadership, school programs, and club management.

### **Jennifer Zaniewski, National 4-H Council**

As National 4-H Council's Director of Field Support, Jennifer Zaniewski partners with national and state 4-H leadership, state 4-H

foundation executives and trustees to increase the private sector fundraising capacity of 4-H's field staff. She is a member of NAE4-HA's Organizational Stewardship Committee and has served on the 4-H Professional Development Task Force.

### **Rachel Lyons, New Jersey**

Besides her county program, Rachel Lyons provides leadership to the NJ-OMK initiative including the development of a documentary video, *Young Heroes*.

### **Kathleen "Kathy" Y. Weller, Pennsylvania**

Kathy Weller's main focus has been to improve participation in traditional 4-H Clubs. She has been successful in training adult volunteers in the organization of clubs, and there has been an increase in the number of members taking part in local, regional and state activities. Kathy is active in Regional and State programming as well.

### **Brent Clark, West Virginia**

Brent Clark has promoted and enhanced various county and state programs for youth and volunteers through leadership, recreation and camping initiatives.

### **Shanna D. Nicodemus, West Virginia**

Shanna Nicodemus has expanded the county 4-H program including educational advancement for children with different abilities, livestock literacy, and healthy lifestyles.

## **SOUTHERN REGION**

### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Martha Maddox, Florida**

Marketing Extension and 4-H are key goals. 160 youth and 30 adults traveled to Tallahassee to learn about the legislative process, get to know their delegates and lobbyists. From 1998 - 2005 youth minority enrollment increased by 99%. She

assisted 43 youth in preparing winning state and national record books.

### **Jenny Jordan, Georgia**

Jenny Jordan, Extension 4-H Faculty, coordinates volunteer and teen programs. Her roles include volunteer and leadership training, certification, and the coordination of Project Achievement for 12,000 youth.

### **Janet Turley, Kentucky**

Over the last nineteen years, Janet Turley has enjoyed working on agriculture, leadership, nutrition, budgeting, economics, and personal development programming.

### **Nancy Cronan, Louisiana**

Nancy Cronan is a 4-H Agent in Calcasieu Parish where she provides leadership for the Junior Leadership Club. She helps to conduct the parish Mini Farm, Garden Fest, workshops in nutrition, photography, and child development. Nancy has served as LAE4-HA PR&I Chair, Member Recognition Chair, State Reporter, and State President.

### **Patrick Morgan, Mississippi**

Patrick Morgan is the 4-H Youth Agent in Copiah County, Mississippi. He has been employed with Mississippi Extension for sixteen years, twelve with Alcorn State University and four with Mississippi State University Extension Service with program focuses on Leadership, Animal Science, Food and Nutrition and Horticulture.

### **Carolyn Langley, North Carolina**

Carolyn Langley has been an active member of the NC 4-H Agents Association for 26 years. She has served as President of the NC 4-H Agents Association and as Southern Regional Director for the NAE4-HA. During 28 years working with Extension she has touched the lives of more than 120,000.

### **Pamela K. Varner, Oklahoma**

Throughout her 24 year career, Pamela Varner has worked to assist others find the very best in themselves with life skills. The greatest accomplishments are not found in leadership positions or awards received, but in the growth she has observed in those 4-H youth she has worked with.

### **Sherry Davis-Livingston, South Carolina**

Sherry Davis-Livingston is proud of her accomplishments in 4-H Youth Development, especially in the area of Healthy Lifestyle Education. Because of the state of condition of Chronic Illness in South Carolina the "Steps to a Healthier You" program has been beneficial to youths, adults, and families of Georgetown County.

### **Darrell Hale, Tennessee**

Darrell Hale's career spans over 20 years of excellence. He has reached new audiences with innovative radio and TV programs. Darrell has enfranchised youth by funding exciting programs through annual donations to the county 4-H program in excess of \$70,000. He is known most for his care and compassion for young people.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

### **Marian M. Beck, Alabama**

Marian Beck has served 15 years in the area of 4-H Youth Development and has inspired more than 20,000 youth, in Lauderdale and Colbert counties, actively involved in the 4-H Club program. Marian enjoys teaching youth leadership and life skills so that they may make a difference in their communities.

### **Ruth H. Hunter, Alabama**

Ruth Hunter has worked for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for 34 years in Barbour County. She has worked with thousands of 4-H youth teaching healthy lifestyles, manners and many other topics. She feels these subjects

have taught youth to have a sense of belonging, independence, generosity and mastery.

### **C. Michael French, Arkansas**

Dr. Michael French, Associate Director-Programs, is a lifelong supporter of the 4-H program. He not only personally participated in district and state events, but provided financial support as well. Dr. French also provided an Arkansas 4-H Centennial flag for each of the 75 counties, the state office, and the 4-H Center.

### **Jean Hink, Florida**

Jean Hink has served as an outstanding 4-H agent since 1998. Through her guidance, more youth now participate in all levels of 4-H programs, making her program one of the largest in the state. This year, there are over 33,000 youth participating in school enrichment and 540 members in club programming.

### **Rita Reece Law, Florida**

Rita Reece trained Teen Club 4-H members to lead Clover Kids 4-H Clubs. She has trained members and adults annually at Florida 4-H Legislature. Rita has created 4-H contests and skill-a-thons, youth FCS projects, presented them at national conferences, and led a team of Florida 4-H and Family and Consumer Sciences faculty.

### **Tracy Tesdall, Florida**

Tracy Tesdall has been an Extension Agent for eleven years and currently works in Leon County, Florida. Her efforts include club and leadership development through 4-H County Council and Florida 4-H Legislature, and managing the ever-growing 4-H enrollment of an urban county.

### **Rebecca Brewer Thomas, Georgia**

Rebecca Brewer Thomas has secured over \$262,769 dollars of grants, gifts, and contributions to the county 4-H programs in the areas of livestock, shooting sports, leadership and career development. An average of 1,200 youth participate annually in the county program.

### **Doug Collins, Georgia**

Doug Collins has served as GAE4HA Junior and Senior Director. He has worked extensively with youth livestock projects and has worked to get funding for 4-H support staff.

### **Janet Palmer, Georgia**

Janet Palmer conducts educational 4-H programs in seven schools, an after-school program for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, implements summer enrichment programs, trains teen leaders, coordinates the annual 4-H Awards Program, recognizes donors, conducts fundraising efforts and maintains an active 4-H Advisory Board.

### **Marcie Simpson, Georgia**

Marcie Simpson has served as a 4-H agent and county Extension Coordinator. She has served on national and state association committees. The things Marcie is most proud of in her county 4-H programming are the partnerships with community, the county-wide youth leadership program, and youth lead after-school programming.

### **Catherine P. Webster, Kentucky**

Catherine Webster has been a 4-H agent for eight years, with a Master of Arts degree in Education. She received the KAE4-HA New Agent Award and the ASA. Catherine has established community and project clubs that meet after-school and conduct annual school enrichment programs in every 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom.

### **Paul Coreil, Louisiana**

Paul Coreil has been employed with the LSU AgCenter for 30 years. He provides leadership opportunities and support for agents to further their professional development, claim membership, participate in state/national association meetings and more. Paul has led organizational efforts to publicize and highlight the accomplishments of the local parish 4-H agents.

**Shannon Dietz, Louisiana**

Shannon Dietz is a 4-H agent in Iberville Parish. He has served on several committees: LAE4-HA Member Recognition, LAE4-HA Convention Planning, State Volunteer Strategic Planning and Regional Programming. Shannon is currently working on his specialization in youth development and is serving as a mentor for new 4-H Agents.

**Tina Guillory, Louisiana**

Tina Guillory is a 4-H/FCS Agent in Evangeline Parish. She currently serves as LAE4-HA Secretary and has served as LAE4-HA Area Representative. Tina also serves on several 4-H committees: Regional Volunteer Leader, State Organizational Structure and Mentoring with Professional Development.

**Christina Meriwether, Mississippi**

Christina Meriwether is the 4-H Youth Agent in Leflore County, Mississippi. She has served in the Mississippi State University Extension Service for over seven years with programs focusing on leadership, citizenship, and technology projects.

**Amy Walsh, Mississippi**

Amy Walsh has been employed by the Mississippi State University Extension Service for seven years and currently serves as a 4-H Youth Agent in Amite and Wilkinson Counties. Her program emphases are Interior Design, Clothing, Child Development, Food and Nutrition, and Environmental Education.

**Amy Beth Ware, Mississippi**

As 4-H Youth Agent in Montgomery County, Amy Beth Ware conducts programs for youth ranging from Livestock workshops to Master Cooks School to Junior Master Gardener Clubs. She holds volunteer trainings as well. Recently she implemented a rural leadership program for high school students.

**Iris W. Fuller, North Carolina**

Iris Fuller continues to provide meaningful learning experiences to her extensive 4-H client base. Her program is constantly developing with more than 50 community clubs, 100 special interest members, active advisory, volunteer leaders, county council, horse committees, active summer programming, and a distinctive teen leadership institute.

**Jeanette Schuszler, North Carolina**

Under Jeanette Schuszler's leadership, the 4-H program in Caldwell County is a balanced creative concept. It offers something for everyone. Jeanette continues to dedicate her time and efforts to helping youth and volunteers learn and grow to be their very best. TRY teams, ATV Safety, and Resource Development are some of her outstanding accomplishments.

**Melissa Staebner, North Carolina**

Under Melissa Staebner's direction, Yadkin County programs have grown and diversified to include a strong traditional club program as well as school enrichment programming. Yadkin youth have excelled at the local, district, state, and national levels. 4-H in Yadkin County continues to strive to "make the best better."

**Cathy James, Oklahoma**

Cathy James has presented nutrition and wellness programs in schools, treatment facilities, senior citizen centers and civic groups. She also has initiated partnerships to conduct fitness lessons, walking trails, and school newsletters. Cathy has developed curriculum in manners, food safety and venison and enjoys working with other educators.

**Brenda Medlock, Oklahoma**

Brenda Medlock has secured twelve grants to enhance 4-H programming within her eight years with the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service. She has involved adults and teen volunteers to be involved in planning and

conducting events that are a result of these grants. Successful programs include summer day camps and cooking schools.

### **Brenda K. Miller, Oklahoma**

Working with 4-H youth and adult volunteers for many years, Brenda Miller believes in 4-H and what it can do for the leaders of tomorrow. She feels her success is mirrored in the lives of the youth she has touched. According to Brenda, seeing young people succeed is what it is all about.

### **Anne P. Brock, South Carolina**

Anne Brock's career began as an administrative assistant. Because of her love for 4-H, she earned her degree and was promoted to 4-H Agent. Anne has served on the SCAE4-HA board, helped train other agents, and volunteers in her county. She continues to give Union County youth every 4-H opportunity.

### **Beverly Connelly-Brown, South Carolina**

Beverly Connelly-Brown has strengthened her 4-H program and serves over 2,000 youth in South Carolina. She is currently the co-liasion for 4-H military and OMK projects. Beverley's innovation with GPS/GIS Technology has developed into a statewide technology 4-H program.

### **Joseph "Joe" Griffy, Tennessee**

Joe is well-known for his expertise in youth development, serving on six community boards, including Executive Director of the county's Youth Athletic Association. His exceptional 4-H leadership and citizenship programs were developed after an extensive countywide needs assessment process. Clubs and project groups annually reach over 800 youth.

### **Larry Moorehead, Tennessee**

Larry Moorehead annually manages 92 4-H volunteer leaders in club, project group and after-school programs. His 4-H camping and livestock

programs are highly-regarded, and his work has been recognized numerous times. Larry's intellect and experience are sought by the governmental and community leaders on numerous issues.

### **Terri Quillin, Tennessee**

Terri Quillin involves over 6,000 youth annually in a hands-on, outdoor science program. Elementary teachers in Middle Tennessee regard her as a youth development expert. Terri's marketing expertise for the "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" program is evident, as she annually reaches new schools and teachers in the midstate.

### **Taunee Whittenbarger, Tennessee**

Taunee Whittenbarger delivers high-quality 4-H programs to a countywide enrollment of nearly 2,000 youth. During her career, she has been a leader in providing financial education programs for youth and building strong community coalitions. Taunee also has piloted new programs reaching youth in the Juvenile Court System, producing improved family relations.

### **Karen Tellman, Texas**

Karen Tellman's continued dedication to Wheeler County has brought her many years of enjoyment. She is always willing to share ideas with co-workers. Karen enjoys teaching healthy eating, handwashing, foods, clothing, and leadership and goes the extra mile with creativity to make her programs fun.

### **Sarah Womble, Texas**

For the past nine years Sarah Womble has worked with the 4-H Youth and Development Program in two different counties. Her greatest accomplishment is completing a youth-based outcome plan each year that demonstrates measurable results, impacting and changing the lives of youth in her community.

### **Barbie Wymore, Texas**

Energizing 4-H'ers, parents, and leaders is an accomplishment that Barbie Wymore is proud of. 4-H Project Broadway, 4-H Project Hollywood, 4-H California Dreamers are projects that she initiated to incorporate fun, learning and traveling into the program.

## **ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE**

### **Terrie James, Arkansas**

Terrie James is the CEA for Family and Consumer Sciences and shares her time with 4-H and Community Development.

### **Priscella Thomas, Arkansas**

Priscella Thomas has worked on the State 4-H staff for six years and is an active AAE4-HA member. She coordinates Arkansas 4-H O-Rama and has had over 6,500 participants in the last six years.

### **Renee' L. Gore, Florida**

Renee' Gore is a 4-H agent in Florida. She maintains a diverse 4-H program with clubs, special interest projects, and classroom enrichment. Animal science, ATV safety, and embryology are a few of her specialties. Renee' makes learning fun through discovery in an experiential format.

### **Sarah T. Hensley, Florida**

Sarah Hensley is a fourth year 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent. Her biggest accomplishment is witnessing teenagers attain leadership skills and the increased participation of youth in leadership roles. According to Sarah, her career highlight is having the opportunity to be a role model for the youth with whom she works.

### **Jean Rogalsky, Florida**

Jean Rogalsky received a M.S. in Extension Specialization from the University of Florida. She is most proud of the 4-H organic vegetable garden program which enables families to learn

together about sustainable life choices. Jean attributes program successes to the strong 4-H volunteers and the growing number of middle manager volunteers.

### **Virginia "Jenny" Brown, Georgia**

Jenny Brown joined Extension as a Program Assistant and progressed to County Agent and County Coordinator. She is dedicated to the youth of Butts County and to Extension. Jenny works to insure that each youth in Butts County has the best educational experience they can with 4-H.

### **Rachel Stewart, Georgia**

Rachel Stewart has served as the Tattnall County 4-H Youth Development Agent since June 1, 2002. Nearly 700 4-H students are in her program.

### **Raven C. Ford, Kentucky**

Raven Ford has been a NAE4-HA member for seven years, and her biggest professional accomplishments include two articles being published to the Journal of Extension.

### **Heather J. Nelson, Kentucky**

Heather Nelson has been building up for this career since she was nine years old. She is currently the Floyd County 4-H Agent, and no one was surprised when she had her ten-year reunion a few years ago. It's not that often someone can find a job doing something they love.

### **Wanda Paris, Kentucky**

Wanda Paris' program includes classroom clubs, community clubs, project clubs and specialty clubs. She works extensively with teen programming including participation in two rounds of Engaging Youth Serving Communities grants. Wanda is active in KAE4HA, attends NAE4HA meetings, and is completing a Master's in Human Development and Leadership.

**Sheena Grote-Cecil, Louisiana**

Sheena Grote-Cecil is a 4-H Agent in Acadia Parish. She has served on several LAE4-HA committees: Ways and Means, Public Relations, and Convention Planning. She currently serves as LAE4-HA District 4 Representative. Sheena has received the LAE4-HA Excellence in Teamwork Award and is currently working on her specialization in youth development.

**Sandra Russell, Louisiana**

Sandra Russell is a 4-H Agent in Caldwell Parish providing leadership to 425 4-H members and after-school children. She currently serves on the LAE4-HA Ways and Means Committee and is the District Representative for the Northeast Area. Sandra has received the LAE4-HA Excellence in Teamwork Award and the USDA Secretary's Award.

**Tanya Walker, Louisiana**

Tanya Walker is an Instructor with Louisiana State University 4-H Youth Development. She coordinates the following 4-H programs: Textile and Apparel, State Fashion Board, State 4-H Fashion Revue Contest, and Operation: Military Kids. Tanya also serves as co-chair of the 4-H Strategic Planning Committee on Volunteerism.

**Sara Drake, North Carolina**

After transferring counties, Sara Drake's goal for the first year was to maintain the program that existed, while taking the opportunity to learn the program and the county. Since then, many strides have been made to help grow the 4-H program. School enrichment has been re-established and new clubs have been formed.

**Patricia Gray Cahoon, North Carolina**

To Patricia Gray Cahoon's credit is an increase in county programs, including growth of clubs from 3 to 14 with over 250 members. She has also implemented new county-wide programs, developed partnerships with after-school programs, increased summer programs,

enhanced teen activities and served on local boards to strengthen Extension relationships.

**Bridget Kirk, North Carolina**

In 2007, Bridget Kirk collaborated with other 4-H professionals to secure drug prevention grants totaling \$382,000 and 97% of youth in her All Stars Program reported continued non-use. Bridget's 117 4-H'ers in 2007 state fair contests earned state honors for most awards won. Her school enrichment programs reached 337 youths.

**Benjamin Silliman, North Carolina**

Dr. Ben Silliman, North Carolina Youth Development Specialist, has written over 30 research and 20 Extension publications, been awarded over six million dollars in grant funding, and led Extension efforts in Children, Youth, and Families at Risk, 4-H After-school, and National Evaluation for Impact and SET Evaluation.

**Rebecca Anderson, Oklahoma**

Rebecca Anderson has been an active member of OAE4-HA for almost four years. She received two scholarships to help with finances to attend two National Conferences. Rebecca has also received three 4-H foundation grants to assist in bettering the 4-H camp program.

**Cindy Conner, Oklahoma**

Cindy Conner has brought 27 years of teaching in public schools and 15 years as a 4-H volunteer leader to her position as the 4-H Youth Development Educator in Garfield County, Oklahoma. She has used this experience to expand the school enrichment program and increase 4-H involvement in her county.

**Kimbreyley Davis, Oklahoma**

Kimbreyley Davis says her proudest moment as an educator was when 4-H'ers recruited Crop Artist, Stan Herd, to create the 2005 Kansas Centennial Crop Art Picture. She also has had the opportunity to work with numerous 4-H projects

and several creative community service projects in her county.

### **Donna Calhoun, Tennessee**

A statewide leader in nutrition and financial education, Donna Calhoun is widely-known for innovation and inspiration. She annually reaches over 200 youth in her county through day camps. Parents and government leaders regard Donna as a community leader whose efforts consistently improve the quality of life for children and youth.

### **Janae Cook, Tennessee**

Janae Cook exhibits a special talent for putting new ideas into action. She involved 1,800 4-H members in "Healthy University" to improve their dietary choices and their attitudes toward exercise. Janae is an excellent educator who has created new roles for volunteers to be active in 4-H leadership.

### **Sarah Vaden, Tennessee**

In Sarah Vaden's county 4-H program, she emphasizes project work and leadership development. The service-learning projects Sarah manages have reached thousands of youth, and her citizenship lessons are used in multiple county programs. She also developed a volunteer leader handbook, credited by volunteers as helping them to increase 4-H participation.

### **Cory Talley, Texas**

Cory Talley has served as a 4-H Agent for over five years. She has had great success in increasing membership numbers while chartering six new 4-H clubs. Cory has also revamped some programming efforts concerning summer camps and speaking programs to bring more excitement into the Travis County 4-H program.

### **Dawn Watson, Texas**

Dawn Watson has been a member of NAE4-HA since she started in Extension six years ago. She's most excited when she witnesses 4-H members learning and having fun.

## **25 YEARS OF SERVICE**

### **John S. Pulliam, Alabama**

John Pulliam has dedicated 25 years in Pike and Macon counties. He has enrolled 30,000 4-H'ers and had district, state and national winners.

### **Susan Pickle, Arkansas**

Susan Pickle has had 26 years of service, been a member for nine years, and served as state president from 2002-03.

### **Grace L. Garnier, Georgia**

For thirty-one years, Grace Garnier has worked with Georgia and Louisiana Cooperative Extension programs organizing, planning, implementing, evaluating, training and supervising youth and adults. She also provides leadership to the total Paulding County Program and works daily to make the best better.

### **Sid Mullis, Georgia**

Sid Mullis has made over \$450,000 worth of renovations and improvements to the local 90-acre 4-H camp facility in his county through fundraising and county sales tax money. The camp serves thousands of people every year, not only in 4-H, but other youth organizations and church groups.

### **Lois E. Brister, Louisiana**

Lois Brister began her 4-H career in Rapides Parish. Her efforts include responsibilities with school-based 4-H volunteers, community-service learning projects, character education and 4-H project mastery. Lois serves as an advisor for the State 4-H Food & Fitness Board and coordinator for state camp, and she also serves on LSU AgCenter and LAE4-HA committees.

### **Stanley Dutile, Louisiana**

Stanley Dutile has been an LAE4-HA and NAE4-HA member for 25 years since the beginning of his employment with the LSU AgCenter in 1982. He began his career doing 4-H work in Lafayette

Parish and is a previous ASA and DSA winner. Stanley is currently serving as Parish Chairman, County Agent, and District Livestock Show Manager.

### **Kenneth J. Guidry, Louisiana**

Kenneth Guidry has been a 4-H Agent in St. James Parish for 25 years. He has been awarded Outstanding Young Agent and Distinguished Service Awards, as well as teamwork and community service awards. Kenneth helped the 4-H program grow and become stronger in the areas of safety, livestock, and community service.

### **Helen Page, Louisiana**

Helen Page is a 4-H agent in Calcasieu Parish providing leadership for 1700 members. She works with 4-H'ers, leaders and other agents to organize and conduct workshops, events for the community, and teamwork building seminars. Helen also helped organize the Calcasieu 4-H Green TEENS Environmental Club which educates and provides environmental-related community service.

### **Kenneth Spoto, Louisiana**

Kenneth Spoto's accomplishments include a local 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Guide, a parish Jr. Livestock Association of parents and leaders, a mini-farm which is visited by over 1,000 youth, leadership in regional activities, recruitment of 500 plus volunteers, and serving on the state 4-H Strategic Planning Committee and Workforce Preparation Team.

### **Travis Burke, North Carolina**

Travis Burke has been employed with North Carolina Cooperative Extension for 25 years. Throughout his Extension career, Travis has impacted the citizens of Pasquotank County, North Carolina through 4-H, livestock, and county administrative work.

### **Claude Bess III, Oklahoma**

As an administrator, Claude Bess encourages involvement in professional associations and his personal commitment was an integral part of the success of the 2004 NAE4HA Conference.

### **Marilyn Prause, Texas**

Marilyn Prause's exemplary dedication to empowering 4-H families and in reaching out to under-served audiences, such as thousands of military families across Texas, serves as an example for 4-H youth staff everywhere.

## **WESTERN REGION**

### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

#### **Bob Peterson, Arizona**

Bob Peterson has been with Extension for more than 27 years and specializes in small animal, teen programming, volunteer development and training, and challenge trainings.

#### **Carla Sousa, California**

Carla Sousa chaired a quad-state conference that focused on diversity. This year, the Teen Survival Conference, which received NAE4HA's 1994 Youth at Risk Recognition Award for Carla's leadership, will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> annual event. She co-chairs California's Volunteer Development Workgroup and a research project on teen decisions regarding driving.

#### **William "Bill" L. Nobles, Colorado**

Bill Nobles has been passionately involved in youth programming, searching for creative and effective ways to teach and lead youth of all ages and backgrounds. Recently, Bill led twenty-eight ambassadorial youth to Europe bringing a variety of different ethnic cultures together emphasizing life skills, peace and understanding.

**Laura Jean Kawamura, Hawaii**

Laura Jean Kawamura has developed an innovative program for youth and their parents to consume more fruits and vegetables and engage in daily physical activity.

**Mary Jean Craig, Idaho**

Mary Jean Craig has coordinated the 4-H Know Your Government Conference since 1988 and helped establish the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

**David L. Bertelsen, Montana**

In a small single-agent county in eastern Montana, a 1995 DSA recipient, David Bertelsen has structured a 4-H program through the committee system actively involving leaders, teens and parents in the decision-making process. Thirty-eight percent of the county's 4-H members currently participate in a strong after-school Cloverbuds program.

**Carol A. Benesh, Nevada**

Since coming to Nevada in 2005, Carol Benesh is the State 4-H Program Leader and the Director of Operations for the Nevada 4-H Camp where she led an environmental effort to build a LEED certified "Green" cabin.

**Shelly Porter, New Mexico**

As an 18-year county FCS educator with NMSU CES, Shelly Porter has impacted 4-H audiences from county to national levels. She has provided traditional 4-H programming to youth in home economics and general project areas such as baking, sewing, fashion revue, consumer decision making and favorite foods contests and activities.

**Anne Manlove, Oregon**

Anne Manlove's passion and leadership has expanded her already strong and dynamic program to now reach over 14,000 youth.

**Deb Jones, Utah**

Deb Jones has enjoyed 4-H as she explores our great country. She's been involved in Alaska, New Hampshire, Virginia and Utah 4-H programs.

**Dan Fagerlie, Washington**

Dan Fagerlie believes the 4-H program plays the most vital and impacting role of the Extension system. He works hard to build strong programs in the poorest county in Washington and developed funding that supports staff, volunteers, and youth to enable them to attend 4-H events at little or no cost.

**Colleen Campbell, Wyoming**

Colleen Campbell has provided educational leadership to support and improve programming for youth and volunteer leaders in North Dakota, Illinois and Wyoming. Colleen is active on several state committees and is the past president of WAE4-HA.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD****Darcy Tessman, Arizona**

Darcy Tessman's programming includes after-school 4-H clubs for over 100 youth at Fort Huachuca Army Installation, camp for pre-teens that serves the southeastern part of Arizona, the Dance Revolution Program in physical education classes to increase physical activity for county youth, and civic engagement in the border community of Douglas.

**Jane Chin Young, California**

Jane Chin Young has served as a California 4-H Advisor for 27 years, previously in Los Angeles County, and currently in Marin County of the Bay Area. Her program areas of interest include teen leadership, nutrition education for low-income youth, and therapeutic horseback riding for youth with disabilities.

**Julia Hurdelbrink, Colorado**

Julia Hurdelbrink enjoys the challenges of working with youth of all ages. She provides leadership in the Adams County 4-H Cloverbuds and Family and Consumer Sciences area, where she has enhanced programs to increase participation. Julia believes in empowering youth and giving them the opportunities to learn by doing.

**Linda Yoder, Colorado**

Linda Yoder has worked with 4-H youth in Extension for twelve years. Budget cuts changed her job of teaching classes to training leaders to teach. Linda has provided workshops, managed the State Speech Contest, and is currently the Director in charge of all youth, FCS and Ag in the county.

**Joan Chong, Hawaii**

Creating a vision, discovering solutions, and building the future has been the driving force behind Joan Chong's educational programs. She developed and conducted programs statewide to strengthen youth and adults working together toward positive changes in their communities.

**Joey Peutz, Idaho**

Joey Peutz's 4-H Youth Development Program accomplishments have centered on reaching new audiences and building leadership in teens.

**Nico Cantalupo, Montana**

Nico Cantalupo has been a 4-H professional for fifteen years. He actively works to encourage kids to participate in the decision-making process as well as implementing youth teaching youth. From 4-H camp to Montana 4-H Congress, Nico is there making sure his kids have the opportunity to participate.

**Jackie Reilly, Nevada**

Jackie Reilly, M.S. has been a Youth Development Specialist with UNCE and member of NEA4-HA for 18 years. Her work focuses on

providing positive youth development experiences for hundreds of youth annually in after-school settings, professional development for youth workers and early childhood staff, and training regarding child maltreatment.

**Connie Moyers, New Mexico**

4-H has played an important role in Connie Moyers' life. She was a 4-H member then 4-H parent, served 18 years as a leader, and now an agent for over 10 years. Encouraging 4-H youth to grow and develop and making a positive impact on their future has been extremely rewarding for Connie.

**Candi C. Bothum, Oregon**

Candi Bothum defines character. She is steadfast in her representations of caring, trustworthiness, fairness, citizenship, responsibility, and respect.

**Marilyn K. Lesmeister, Oregon**

Marilyn's Lesmeister's passion for youth engagement has brought a new energy, direction, and meaning to statewide youth and adult leadership development programs.

**Darlene Christensen, Utah**

Darlene Christensen has been with Extension since 1995. She loves working with 4-H youth and seeing the difference 4-H makes.

**Craig Dart, Utah**

Craig Dart has been a driving force for the Youth and Families of Promise Mentoring Program and the State 4-H Program in Utah.

**Jan Klein, Washington**

Responsible for teen programming and leadership training at state-wide events in addition to mentoring youth delegations at national events, Jan Klein is the spark plug that has re-ignited Washington's 4-H Citizenship program. Her energy, drive and sheer force of will have built a strong coalition for Civic Education and Engagement.

**Warren Crawford, Wyoming**

As a state Youth Development Specialist, Warren Crawford's focus is on developing teen leadership programs and supporting natural resource education for volunteers.

**ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE****Candi Dierenfield, Alaska**

Candi Dierenfield was a ten-year 4-Her, growing up in Montana. She has worked for the Alaska 4-H program the past four years on CYFAR, Operation Military Kids, Health Rocks programs, and was honored with the 2006 4-H/Aim High Award for her work with Eielson Air Force Base Youth Programs.

**Lani Hall, Arizona**

Lani Hall has been the 4-H agent in Gila County for the past three years. She has worked to build a strong program in all areas of her county. Lani has made great progress with her goals and continues to strive to make 4-H a stellar youth development program.

**DaNell D. Hennis, Colorado**

DaNell Hennis has dedicated herself to positive youth development as a 4-H agent for the past five years. She has raised over \$54,000 in grant funds and incorporated methods of programming to reach new audiences such as day camps, school enrichment, summer outreach and after-school programs reaching 3,100 kids in 2007.

**Brenda Kwang, Colorado**

Brenda Kwang is a County Director and the only Agent in Grand County, Colorado. She has been in her position for 4.5 years. Brenda was the State Shooting Sports superintendent for three years, CAE4-HA treasurer, and the 2006 Tyro winner. Her programs focus on 4-H outreach and the traditional 4-H program.

**Tom Mason, Hawaii**

Tom Mason has developed innovative outreach programs in Colorado and is now working in Hawaii to provide S.E.T. opportunities for youth.

**Laura L. Sant, Idaho**

Laura Sant provides leadership to her county 4-H program and teaches project camps, after-school projects, and school enrichment programs.

**Wendy Wedum, Montana**

Wendy Wedum manages the 4-H Horse and Livestock Program and is a Community Development agent. She has a Helmet Safety program, co-teaches life and learning skills at the juvenile detention center, and is a life-long learner completing a Master's degree in education.

**Teresa Trujillo Dean, New Mexico**

Teresa Trujillo has been with New Mexico Extension for over six years. She has served as the Extension 4-H Agent in Otero and Socorro Counties. Teresa has a strong passion for 4-H, excels in integrating underserved audiences and spends much of her time providing opportunities for 4-H youth development.

**Amy Derby, Oregon**

Amy Derby is recognized for her leadership and caring nature in growing programs, resolving challenging problems, and connecting with communities.

**Mike Knutz, Oregon**

Mike Knutz has achieved new levels of 4-H outreach enrollment with Latino, home-school, and out-of-school/camping audiences.

**Jolene Christian, Utah**

Jolene Christian has been with Extension four years. She develops innovative 4-H programs, partnering with after-school, military, and low income housing.

**Lauralee Lyons, Utah**

Lauralee Lyons grew up in 4-H, serving as a State Ambassador for two years. She interned in Davis County before getting a job with the State 4-H Office as an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow. Lauralee has been the State 4-H Activities Coordinator for four years.

**Phoebe Bachleda, Washington**

Phoebe Bachleda provides calm, structured leadership to over 30 middle-management volunteers. Major programs implemented under her leadership include a statewide canine overnight event and development of a comprehensive fiber program. Phoebe's outreach efforts with the Tulalip Tribes has resulted in a successful partnership with 4-H.

**Laurie Peternal, Wyoming**

Laurie Peternal has worked for the University of Wyoming Extension for six years. She has been a part of innovative programming such as 4-H emergency management training.

**25 YEARS OF SERVICE****Bryan K. Chadd, Arizona**

Bryan Chadd is proud of his 4-H programming efforts in three states and his choice of 4-H Youth Development as a career.

**Curt Peters, Arizona**

Curt Peters has survived 26 years in the Pima County 4-H program principally working in the areas of science and technology.

**Michael Marzolla, California**

Since 1983, Michael Marzolla has served as an Advisor with University of California Cooperative Extension in Santa Barbara County. With more than twenty-five years of experience in the field of non-formal environmental education, he has worked in national and international settings. Michael is fluent in Spanish and has extensive experience working with diverse communities.

**Janice Dixon, Colorado**

Janice Dixon helps youth step into county, state and national leadership roles. Since 1993, Morgan County 3rd-5th graders have participated in a safety program covering ten safety topics. Developing new outreach efforts in after-school, school enrichment and summer programs is a favorite in Janice's job ventures.

**Jeff Goodwin, Colorado**

Jeff Goodwin has had a significant impact on 4-H and Extension nationwide with his creative educational style and innovative video production efforts on the topic of livestock show ethics. For his work in this area Jeff was awarded the Humane Award from the American Veterinary Medical Association in 2005.

**Eleanor G. West, Colorado**

Throughout her career with Extension, especially with 4-H, Eleanor West has had many opportunities for growth professionally and personally. According to Eleanor, her biggest accomplishment is waking up in the morning and looking forward to going to work. People of all ages have brightened her days, and 4-H has kept Eleanor young at heart.

**Jim Wilson, Idaho**

Jim Wilson is dedicated to challenging others to achieve their fullest potential by building effective teams to address emerging youth development issues.

**Verlin Koenig, Montana**

Verlin Koenig started the Hi-Line 4-H & FFA Livestock Judging Contest in 1980; hosted Multi-County 4-H Camp at the Pines in Fort Peck, Montana 4-H Leaders Forum, Montana Range Days, State 4-H Horse Show '02-'03, District 4-H Livestock Judging Contest '05-'06, and implemented the Nelson/Swanson 4-H Senior Scholarship.

**Owida C. Franz, New Mexico**

During her 27-year career with New Mexico Extension, Owida Franz has worked untold hours with 4-H youth in all aspects of the 4-H Program. She has served as 4-H Home Economist in Lea County and held a dual position of Adult Home Economics and 4-H in Union County.

**Marilyn K. Lesmeister, Oregon**

An Oregon 4-H Volunteer and Civic Engagement faculty since 2006, Marilyn Lesmeister has also enjoyed 4-H in North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Florida.

**David G. Mitchell, Oregon**

With 4-H service in Alabama, Idaho and Oregon, David Mitchell currently works with the 4-H/Army Youth Development Project, San Antonio, Texas.

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# NATIONAL EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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## NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

### EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

*This award is to recognize a professional Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Educator who is conducting outstanding educational programs that demonstrate impact on families.*

#### **Sharon Hoelscher Day, Arizona**

Sharon Hoelscher Day started Safe Food 2010, Bone Builders, and other health promotion programs. She has developed web sites and written numerous journal articles, media and publications. Sharon was president for NEAFCS in 2003-04, JCEP in 2005, and is currently president of the Arizona Osteoporosis Coalition.

### GREENWOOD FELLOWSHIP

*This fellowship gives members an opportunity to pursue professional improvement through graduate study in the area of their own choosing.*

#### **Kajuandra Harris Huntley, Alabama**

Kajuandra Harris Huntley is a doctoral candidate in the College of Human Sciences at Auburn University. Her emphasis is Nutrition and Food Science. Kajuandra's dissertation will examine the incidence and implications of being overweight among African American adolescents in rural Macon county Alabama.

### GRACE FRYINGER FELLOWSHIP

*This fellowship provides an opportunity for members to study and observe family and consumer sciences education in other states or countries.*

#### **Linda Block, Arizona**

Linda Block focuses her outreach in combining health and financial programs to one million people in Pima County, Arizona. This award will be used for travel expenses incurred while visiting Extension personnel in Wisconsin, and other states, to address adoption of financial/health materials for a food-stamp-eligible population.

### PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

*This award recognizes outstanding service to special audiences through the use of para-professionals working with or supervised by Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Educators.*

#### **Stacey McQuaig, Georgia**

Stacey McQuaig, GA EFNEP Nutrition Educator for 18 years, has been instrumental in establishing community partnerships and funding opportunities. Her creative teaching style, variety of games, hands-on activities, and food demonstrations inspire clients and community partners to become involved. Stacey serves as a role model, engages volunteers, and mentors others.

### FOOD SAFETY AWARD

*This award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding educational programs conducted for families, school nutrition workers, food industry employees or managers, church workers preparing meals, home care providers and other groups/individuals preparing and/or serving food.*

#### **Amy Peterson, Alice Henneman, Nebraska**

Promoting local foods sold at Farmers' Markets helps add to community economic development and educates about the benefits of fresh and healthy foods. The Garden Grocery: Food Safety

and Selection at the Farmers' Market program materials were made available via the Internet with more than 2,500 clientele downloading them, to date.

## **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES EDUCATION GRANT**

### **Sarah Francis, Wyoming**

Utilizing Social Marketing Theory principles, Sarah Francis is modifying a heart-healthy nutrition curriculum to meet the needs and preferences of residents in Carbon and Albany counties in WY. The original curriculum was created and tested by Francis in North Carolina and resulted in improved morale, self-efficacy, and nutrition practices.

## **PAST PRESIDENTS NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

*This award is presented to an outstanding new professional, but must be used to help defray the cost of attending the recipient's first NEAFCS Annual Session.*

### **Joan Mason, Georgia**

Joan Mason leads Georgia Cooperative Extension in the delivery of Personal Financial education for people filing for bankruptcy. Participants made positive life changes in their finances because of her programming. City and county employees improved their health because of the opportunities Joan sought to collaborate with local government officials.

## **MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD**

*This award recognizes outstanding efforts and accomplishments of individuals and/or teams in diversity and pluralism for any Extension Family and Consumer Sciences program or activity, including staff development, advisory councils, programs, etc.*

### **Shirlye Hopkins, Arkansas**

Creative programming, active committee involvement and collaboration with multiple community partners led to successful high quality diabetes educational programs in Columbia County. Shirlye Hopkins enhanced her professional development skills by participation in the Faculty Leadership Program, and her educational efforts improved the lives of high risk segments of the population.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE TRAINING AWARD**

*Honoring Extension Professional Anita Pulay, this award recognizes outstanding childcare professional training that addresses the needs of young children, birth to eight years of age.*

### **Karen Benson, Susan Seal, Mississippi**

In The Reality Classroom, childcare provider training is broadcast live via video conferencing from a childcare center classroom to county Extension sites, increasing provider access to improve the learning environment and the number of literacy activities in the classroom.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

*The Distinguished Service Award is the highest award presented by NEAFCS. The award recognizes members for leadership, educational program efforts and professional development*

## **CONTINUED EXCELLENCE**

*The award recognizes members who have previously received the Distinguished Service Award and continue to be actively involved in professional improvement programs and promoting professional development and leadership.*

## **CENTRAL REGION NATIONAL AWARDS**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

#### **Sarah Todd, Illinois**

During her career, Sarah Todd has communicated nutrition and food safety information to a wide variety of audiences. In Illinois, Sarah has contributed to programming including Dining with Diabetes, Food Sanitation licensing education, Heart Healthy Cooking, and numerous food and nutrition programming efforts for 4-H youth.

#### **Vickie Hadley, Indiana**

Vickie Hadley's commitment to providing financial management education and food handler certification to empower individuals and families to improve their lives characterizes her career in Purdue Extension. She offers programs in a variety of formats and in collaboration with community agencies to meet the needs within the community.

#### **Nancy Jenson, Iowa**

Nancy Jenson strives to present cutting edge programs to meet the needs of clients. During her 29-year career as Extension Home Economist and County Extension Education Director, she is an effective administrator and team builder. Nancy collaborates with groups for projects, is visionary in her programming, and a community leader.

#### **Jean Rowland, Kansas**

Family and Child Development programming has been a focus in Jean Rowland's Extension career. She has been a KCCTO Trainer for child care providers in a multi-county area and works with the Labette County Women's Correctional Camp in providing a ten-hour parenting class for inmates.

#### **Rebecca Hagen Jokela, Minnesota**

Rebecca Hagen Jokela's efforts include: Financial Literacy Community Mentorship Program, University of Minnesota Extension and Minnesota Council for Economic Education. She collaborates with Fond du Lac Ojibwe teachers and directors to provide financial literacy education for American Indian students: Financial Literacy, Credit and Debt Teacher Trainings, Youth and Money Team partnerships.

#### **Rebecca Travnichek, Missouri**

Dr. Rebecca Travnichek is a Family Financial Education Specialist with University of Missouri Extension. Her financial courses are educational and entertaining. Learner audiences range from first grade students with her bright orange money apron to probation/parole and incarcerated offenders with programs to help transition into family and community.

#### **Lorene Bartos, Nebraska**

Lorene Bartos provides teaching and leadership for Environment of the Home, annual Child Care Provider Conferences, and literacy education. She has authored 650 weekly news columns since 1995. Lorene is an active member of multiple coalitions in Lincoln Nebraska. Her Extension career began in 1973 as a 4-H professional.

#### **Rebecca Versch, Nebraska**

Health education has been the cornerstone of Rebecca Versch's 27-year career. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Nebraskans are now informed about the health impacts of radon thanks to an educational initiative which has reached all corners of the state. Hundreds more are healthier after taking nutrition classes offered regionally.

#### **Cynthia Shuster, Ohio**

Strengthening individuals and families exemplifies Cindy Shuster's Family and Consumer Sciences programming efforts. She instructs Helping

Children Cope with Divorce, a parenting education program for divorcing couples; Healing Hearts: Helping Children of Divorce Rebuild, a program for children whose parents are divorcing, and Principles of Parenting, a program for individuals petitioning custody.

### **Susan Zies, Ohio**

Susan Zies is committed to meeting educational needs of all people and works closely with collaboratives in Lucas County. She supervises EFNEP, Family Nutrition Program, and conducts educational programs on Dining with Diabetes, Food Safety, and Family Resource Management. Susan is known for her creativity and innovative teaching methods.

### **Linda Smith, South Dakota**

Helping families make informed decisions is the focus of Linda Smith's efforts, whether those decisions involve Medicare coverage, emergency preparedness, parenting, food safety, or healthy lifestyles. Collaborating For Change community coaching endeavors have enhanced access to rural communities and aging populations often underserved by other health promotion efforts.

## **CONTINUED EXCELLENCE**

### **Sharon Kuhns, Illinois**

As the Coles County Extension Director, Sharon Kuhns is committed to forming local collaborative partnerships to create new learning opportunities for adults and youth of the county. She believes in the value of professional organizations and appreciates the learning and leadership opportunities afforded her during her 26-year Extension career.

### **Jackie Baumann, Indiana**

Jackie Baumann, a member of NEAFCS since 1988, received the DSA in 2002. She attended seven national meetings, serving as voting delegate five times. In addition to her work as a foods and nutrition educator in Putnam County,

Jackie serves as the co-chair of the Purdue Emergency Management Education Team.

### **Penelope “Penny” Troutman, Indiana**

Throughout her career with Purdue Extension, Penny Troutman has been known for collaborating with community organizations, teaching educational programs and communicating via her Purdue Extension Knowledge through radio programs. Her educational emphasis has been to meet locally identified needs, and teach in the areas of family, health, and wellness.

### **Mary Kaufman, Iowa**

Mary Kaufman believes professional development is vital to an effective educator. Throughout her 27-year Extension career, gaining knowledge became practice through Volunteer Tax Programs, Horizons, Adult Caregiving, and Financial Literacy Programs for youth and adults. Through mentoring co-workers, training parent educators and agency personnel, she helped others grow professionally.

### **Teresa “Terry” Clark-Jones, Michigan**

Terry Clark-Jones values the learning opportunities that have been part of her 26 years with Extension. She believes educational improvement is a vital component for building skills and maintaining the creative spark. Terry joined MEAFCS in 1990 and has held several MEAFSC board positions including president in 1999.

### **Cindy Petersen, Minnesota**

Family Resource Management programming has been the focus of Cindy Petersen's work with an emphasis on low and limited income audiences. Program team leadership, materials development and teaching has been in Dollar Works 2, Minnesota Latino Financial Literacy, Financial Literacy Community Mentorship, Financial Security in Later Life, and Debt Know How.

**Susan Mills-Gray, Missouri**

Susan Mills-Gray is enjoying her 26th year with the University of Missouri Extension. She serves a three-county area, including the Kansas City metro, focusing on chronic disease prevention/management, strength training for seniors, and sports nutrition. Susan is a past-president of the Missouri affiliate, and has also served on several national committees.

**Kim Bearnes, Nebraska**

Creating understanding of learning styles, cultural preferences, career development, and intergeneration diversity education is a key element to the programming success of Kim Bearnes, Extension Educator UNL Thurston County. While specializing in Native American programming, Kim provides nutrition, career development and leadership emphasis for youth and adults in Northeast Nebraska.

**Amy Peterson, Nebraska**

Nutrition, health, food safety, and 4-H are the focus of Amy Peterson's Extension career in Nebraska. She has also benefited from leadership positions within NEAFCS at the state and national level, where she has served as Vice President for Awards and Recognition and currently is Central Region Director.

**Barbara Brahm, Ohio**

Barbara Brahm participates and trains others through a variety of state and national educational activities in Extension and the America's Promise 100 Best Communities for Young People Program. She has served as a past state Extension president and as a past NEAFCS national hospitality committee chairman.

**Marcia Jess, Ohio**

Extending the knowledge and resources of Ohio State University to people in Ottawa County is Marcia Jess' professional mission. Throughout her 28-year Extension career, she has focused her expertise on nutrition, health and food

preservation. More recently, programming has shifted to include an emphasis in resource management and leadership development.

**Ruth Schmeichel, South Dakota**

Ruth Schmeichel is instrumental in working with the Children Youth Families at Risk grant project, offering nutrition education and encouraging physical activity to families with young children. She is a Certified Food Safety Instructor offering ServSafe certification to food service employees. Ruth also helps citizens evaluate Medicare Part D insurance.

**FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

*The Florence Hall Award is presented for an outstanding program conducted by one or more NEAFCS members who have been alert in recognizing new concerns and interests of families and have involved people in planning and implementing programs that benefit families.*

**Aaron Ebata, Patti Faughn, Giesela Grumbach, Milly Kaiser, Janice McCoy, Geraldine Peeples, Angela Rhinhart, Sherry Rocha, Diane Ryals, Deborah McClellan, Angela Wiley, Illinois**

The Parenting 24/7 web site provides a "one-stop" source of parenting information and advice from the University of Illinois Extension Family Life team. The site has demonstrated steady growth since it was launched, and users report gains in parenting knowledge and positive parenting practices as a result of using the site.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD**

*This award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding educational programs conducted for families and/or communities on various environmental issues/concerns.*

### **Debra Bartman, Ted Funk, Elizabeth Haynes, Pat Hildebrand, Lois Smith, Illinois**

Radon, the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, is responsible for 21,000 deaths annually. To help people understand health risks, testing, and mitigation, Indoor Air Quality materials and the Take Action on Radon web site were created. Due to collaboration and marketing efforts, over 19,500 radon detectors were distributed.

## **EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD**

*Recognizes outstanding housing educational programs conducted for families and/or communities.*

### **Sharon Jeffery, Michigan**

Two new methods of Housing Outreach were initiated in Clare County, Michigan this year to improve access to housing information and support. These included the use of billboards with foreclosure assistance information and a Community Connection Outreach Day which provided free food, haircuts, and winter coats along with housing-related information.

## **EASTERN REGION NATIONAL AWARDS**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

#### **Frances Alloway, Pennsylvania**

Supervising six Nutrition Education Advisors with EFNEP and FSNEP in Delaware County (suburban Philadelphia), Frances Alloway also manages professional development for child care practitioners, attended by 953 participants at 50 events in 2007. She was the Pennsylvania

Liaison for the 2005 Philadelphia NEAFCS annual session and is now president of PEAFCFS.

#### **Robert Thee, Pennsylvania**

Improving financial literacy has been the focus of Robert Thee's educational programming carried out in both direct educational efforts and indirect through a train-the-trainer approach to reach an even larger audience. Access to resources and the ability to manage resources effectively are key factors to family stability and strength.

#### **Luanne Hughes, West Virginia**

Luanne Hughes brings a diverse background in clinical research, public relations, pediatric nutrition, project management and nutrition education to Extension. Her outreach addresses community food systems and nutrition topics, targeting several key areas: - Child nutrition - School wellness - Community supported agriculture/food systems - Food security - Youth farm stands.

## **CONTINUED EXCELLENCE**

#### **Kathleen Morgan, New Jersey**

Professional development and leadership have been significant components of Kathleen Morgan's Extension career that has provided many opportunities to grow professionally and personally. Life gives her the opportunity to assist others to grow professionally and the circle of life encourages Kathleen to continue that path for herself and others.

#### **Elaine Bowen, West Virginia**

Elaine Bowen's twenty-nine year Extension career has focused on serving the profession and meeting the needs of West Virginia families. Accomplishments include the growth of the Family Nutrition Program, 4-H Health Initiative, Love Your Heart Talks, women's health, and CEOS Health Motivator programs. Elaine supports colleagues through mentoring and teamwork.

## **FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

### **Barbara O'Neill, New Jersey**

Small Steps to Health and Wealth encourages participants to take action to simultaneously improve their health and personal finances. Program deliverables include a 132-page workbook, Web site, six-week team competition, and online registration and impact evaluation system. SSHW is being replicated by Extension agents in more than a dozen states.

## **DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD**

*This award recognizes the development of financial management programs which help individuals and families make decisions and plans for their present and future needs.*

### **Patricia Brennan, Barbara O'Neill, New Jersey**

The Money Talk financial education program for women has two components: a 192-page workbook and an accompanying five-session class series. It has been taught to hundreds of New Jersey women, who have reported subsequent behavior changes, and replicated by peers in other states, including an online course in Iowa.

## **EXCELLENCE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING AWARD**

*This award recognizes excellence in development and implementation of after-school programming or providing enrichment to ongoing programs through curriculum and/or training for the staff.*

### **Kathleen Splane, Delaware**

Kick It Up With Nutrition teaches middle school students how to eat healthfully and be more physically active. In after-school settings 4-H teens are teaching younger children how to make healthy fast food choices, eat breakfast, consume

more fruits and vegetables, and interpret unrealistic media messages about body image.

## **SOUTHERN REGION NATIONAL AWARDS**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

#### **Angela Treadaway, Alabama**

Over two decades of experience and dedication has molded this Angela Treadaway for the Distinguished Service Award. In the year 2007, her application highlights leadership in Personal Hygiene, Food Preservation and Serving Food Safely with over 8,000 people being educated and changed for the betterment of their community.

#### **Linda Chappell, Arkansas**

Linda Chappell's main responsibilities for her county include Food Stamp Nutrition Education, Extension Homemakers, 4-H, Leadership Carroll County, and financial education programs. She enjoys teaming with Farm Bureau Women's Committee, the county Probation Office and Fair Board. Linda is currently an officer in Arkansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Science

#### **Renee Myers, Arkansas**

A NEAFCS member for 20 years, Renee Myers has served the Arkansas Affiliate as Associate District Director, District Director and 4-H Youth Committee Chair. Her educational programs have focused on leadership development, nutrition education, child development and financial management with both youth and adult audiences.

#### **Gayle Whitworth, Florida**

One of the focuses of Gayle Whitworth's work is keeping children safe while in motor vehicles. Through her work, She has helped over 600 parents learn how to correctly select, install, and

use child safety restraints and seat belts, thereby reducing the risk of injury and death in a crash.

### **Christa Campbell, Georgia**

Christa Campbell joined the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service as a Family and Consumer Science Agent in February of 1996. Reducing chronic disease, financial literacy, and food safety have been priorities in Brooks County.

### **Rosie Allen, Kentucky**

Innovative would be the word to describe Rosie Allen. She consistently conducts high quality Extension educational programs through effective use of volunteers, strong committee/task force structure and collaborative efforts. Rosie meets new challenges with enthusiasm because she is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of families.

### **Sheila Fawbush, Kentucky**

As founder of the Shelby County Wellness Coalition, Sheila Fawbush is a community partner in the fight against obesity and chronic illnesses. She encourages others to be involved in physical activity and nutrition education. Sheila is an advocate for leadership development. Many volunteers become catalysts for healthy lifestyle changes.

### **Sally Mineer, Kentucky**

LEAP for health curriculum is a series of lessons using storybooks to teach children about staying healthy, being physically active and eating more fruits and vegetables. LEAP represents-Literacy, Eating and Activity for Preschoolers. The program was presented to three Head Start locations in the county and involved over 130 preschoolers.

### **Deniese Zeringue, Louisiana**

Deniese Zeringue has attended two national conferences and won several awards: Written News Communication Award, Marketing Package Award, Maxine Reeves Memorial Award, Early Childhood Child Care Award, Denver T. and Fern

Loupe Extension Team Award, Community Partnership Award, ESP Mid-Career Award, and ESP team award for FRM.

### **Tawnya Crockett, Mississippi**

Tawnya Crockett possesses the attributes and professional qualities that make her deserving of the Distinguished Service Award from NEAFCS. She is dedicated to the profession of Family and Consumer Sciences and shows her dedication through providing quality family resource management programs and going the extra mile to provide needed programs.

### **Theresa Hand, Mississippi**

Theresa Hand is the Hinds County Extension Director. Theresa has worked in all types of Extension programming over the past twelve years from Food and Nutrition to Beef Cattle Production workshops. She has worked diligently with volunteers, county officials, and other agencies to integrate Extension programs into Hinds County.

### **Recia Garcia, Oklahoma**

Throughout her Extension career, Recia Garcia has worked diligently to engage citizens and non-citizens of all ages in educational activities working to enrich their quality of life. Recia created and conducted a variety of original service-oriented programs involving youth and adults, alongside professionals, volunteers, parents, and lay leaders.

### **Charlotte Richert, Oklahoma**

Affecting lives through programming in family and consumer sciences and 4-H since 1979, Charlotte Richert directed the establishment of a county scholarship program providing over \$200,000 in scholarships. Her strong media presence includes creative and educational programming resulting in news columns, statewide news releases, and television appearances reaching 2.2 million people.

**Carla Bush, Tennessee**

Carla Bush's achievements include being TEAFCS Treasurer for five years, State Vice President for Professional Development, \$20,000 USDA Rural Development grant for kitchen, \$15,000 Tobacco Initiative Grant, TEAFCS Communication Awards, Poster Session on Tai Chi, Region FCE Advisor, Rookie of the Year, New Professional Award, Search of Excellence Award, FCS Program Enhancement Award.

**Nancy Rucker, Tennessee**

Nancy Rucker, Extension Agent and County Director, has major program areas including Tennessee Saves and Tennessee Shapes Up. She markets programs through local media and program partners. Nancy is seen as a leader in her community through her work with both youth and adults in Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Sue Church, Texas**

Sue Church, a Family and Consumer Sciences agent for Texas AgriLife Extension Service, brings a creative approach to programming in areas of financial literacy, elder issues, youth and family. Collaborations with other agencies, businesses, and individuals has broadened the expertise base that is offered to county clientele.

**Joan Gray-Soria, Texas**

Joan Gray-Soria has worked with Extension for 18 years. She is always willing to share ideas with co-workers. Joan enjoys teaching food safety, health, and child passenger safety and creatively goes the extra mile to make her programs fun.

**Angela Monk, Texas**

Angie Monk has had a positive impact on youth and adults in Wood County by implementing programs in Safety Education, Nutrition, Health, and Leadership Development. Through these programs, participants learn to make safe, healthy choices for a lifetime as they grow, learn, and serve in their communities.

**Bonnie Tazewell, Virginia**

Bonnie Tazewell has served as an Extension educator for 27 years. She has conducted educational programming in the areas of nutrition and health, food safety, family financial management and leadership development for youth and adult audiences. Bonnie's innovative programs and community leadership are valued by her peers and public alike.

**CONTINUED EXCELLENCE****Jovita Jones Lewis, Alabama**

Throughout her 18 year Extension Career, Jovita Jones Lewis, has held fast to the philosophy of, "It's never too soon, nor too late, for learning!" Jovita's interests lie in cutting-edge training, web/technology based training and effective coaching of Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Agent Assistants.

**Martha Maddox, Florida**

Martha Maddox has been a member of NEAFCS for 23 years, 13 years in Arkansas and 10 in Florida. Her programs with impact include cutting sodium in the diet, making healthier food choices by learning how to read food labels and Take Charge of Their Diabetes.

**Laurie Cantrell, Georgia**

Laurie Cantrell's responsibility is to enhance the ability of Extension faculty to develop, conduct, and evaluate high quality programs that address local, state, and national priorities. Her innovation and leadership has contributed to the state and national recognition of Georgia Cooperative Extension faculty and program

**Diana Wells Doggett, Kentucky**

Diana Wells Doggett has utilized her Extension career to teach and motivate. She has used leadership skills and management practices to improve the quality of life for youth and adults in Kentucky. A role model for positive collaborations,

Diana is actively engaged in local, regional, state and national professional development.

### **Martha Yount, Kentucky**

Martha Yount has served in Breathitt County, Kentucky for 19 years. She is a certified Environmental Educator and includes programming for people of all ages on the importance of a clean environment and safe water for good health. Martha pairs increasing physical activity with environmental education for a lifestyle bonus.

### **Deborah Cross, Louisiana**

Deborah Cross has been an Extension agent for 23 years. During this time she has worked in youth development, community development, and FCS. Some of her outstanding programs have been Celebrate Girls, My Own Business, Customer Service and dealing with the Difficult Customer, and SAIL-Saving And Investing for Life.

### **Louise McDonald, Louisiana**

Nutrition, health and fitness programs were presented to 1200 youth. Pre/post-tests were given to evaluate knowledge of nutrition and fitness. Staff collaborated with school board and city recreation to present a two-day event where 600 youth participated in walking trails, cardio-tennis, super food ID, and blood pressure reading.

### **Evelyn Acklin, Mississippi**

Evelyn Acklin, Area Nutrition and Food Safety Agent and 25-year educator, provides research-based programming opportunities through traditional and non-traditional teaching methods including workshops, newsletters, news articles, TV spots and personal contacts for ten Southeast Mississippi counties with the potential to reach over 50,000 citizens.

### **Pamela Lee, Mississippi**

For 26 years, families have had the opportunity to grow through participation in Pamela Lee's Extension programs. As a home economist with area and 4-H responsibilities, and county director, she has used traditional and innovative programming to meet needs of clientele in her area.

### **Percilla Counts, North Carolina**

As a County Extension Director, Percilla Counts has been innovative in her approaches to educational Extension programs, creating programs contributing to an Extension Program of Diversity. She is a leader in her professional association and a charter member of the NC FCS Foundation.

### **Christine Smith, North Carolina**

Christine Smith, a 24-year veteran with North Carolina Cooperative Extension, is a recognized authority in the area of nutrition, wellness, and food safety education. She is known for her passion, professionalism and high impact programming. Christine's educational efforts have resulted in healthier individuals, families and communities.

### **Susan Moffat, Oklahoma**

Susan Moffat is a professional with eighteen years of experience dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families. Susan has developed and presented a variety of programs in community development, family resiliency, and food preparation. Her professionalism creates respect, leadership positions, and mentoring to new educators and non-CES professionals.

### **Maretta Toler, Oklahoma**

Maretta Toler joined the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service and NEAFCS in 1988. She received her Masters in 1992 and has continued with informal professional development for twenty years, concentrating on financial management and food and nutrition. Maretta's leadership is

recognized by the many agencies with whom she partners.

### **Camille Jessee, Tennessee**

Camille Jessee has been a member of NEAFCS for 27 years and has participated in several state meetings and three National Conferences. She served as the district director and on several committees. Camille is also active in NAE4HA and Epsilon Sigma Phi attending National Conferences.

### **April Martin, Tennessee**

April Martin is known in her county as an educator for building wealth and fitness. She is a servant of the community working with the fair board, schools, FCE clubs, and 4-H clubs. With these responsibilities, April juggled work, family, completed a Ph.D., and served on the *Journal of Extension* board.

### **Belinda Riddle, Tennessee**

With 15 years experience as an Extension educator, Belinda Riddle continues to provide award-winning programs, focusing on the needs of diverse audiences. Cutting edge topics include health literacy for Latino families, Tai Chi for arthritis and for health, nutrition for food stamp families, and parenting for divorcing couples.

### **SDA CLEAN HOMES...SAFE AND HEALTHY FAMILIES AWARD**

*This award recognizes NEAFCS members for their innovative educational programs that help families and individuals understand the link between clean homes and good health.*

### **VeEtta Simmons, Arkansas**

Dirty hands are one of the most effective ways to spread infectious diseases that can make us ill as well as our families. This program was developed and implemented for school-age youth to teach the importance of how, why, and when about handwashing.

### **Sheila Fawbush, Regina Browning, Kentucky**

Can you imagine 86 kids in your kitchen? You would want them to wash their hands with soap and water and clean up! Right? The Kids in the Kitchen Program offered twelve hands-on stations for youth to practice proper hand washing, healthy eating, food safety, and new cooking skills.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD**

### **Glinder Stephens, Mary Sue Kennington, Cyndy Mondelus, Jonnali Mayberry, Celeste White, Lelan Parker, Camille Reynolds, Ed Thralls, Dennis Mudge, Liz Felter, Grisel Negron, Florida**

The purpose of the Orange County Saves: Economic Living Expo was to help participants learn how to save energy, reduce waste and conserve resources, while saving money. This event was a spin-off of America Saves with emphasis on preserving natural resources and saving money both directly and indirectly.

### **FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

### **Lisa Gilmore, Arkansas**

This community-based strength-training program involving more than 350 women, including 35 lay people, grew from two sites to 17 in a 3-year period. The program has helped participants to improve fitness and leadership skills, and has developed a network of social support for participants extending beyond the program.

### **Elizabeth Trejo, Texas**

The Inmate Re-entry Life Skills Program is a collaborative effort of Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Department of Criminal Justice and Rotary of Houston which empowers incarcerated women with knowledge and improved skills in decision-making to increase

their capabilities in handling daily challenges in a positive and productive manner.

### **PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD**

#### **Elizabeth Reames, Louisiana**

This tri-state study tested the effectiveness of the Serving Food Safely curriculum to increase knowledge and promote safe food handling practices of food recovery agency staff and volunteers. Results indicated that knowledge and adoption of recommended food safety practices increased for both staff and volunteers following participation in curriculum workshops.

### **EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD**

#### **Debbie Purvis, Luz Cooper, Dennis Epps, Sharon Gibson, Mailyn Perez, Andrea Scarrow, Pamela Turner, Emily Watson, Georgia**

An affordable home in a safe neighborhood is every American's dream. With increased economic growth, Colquitt County has been faced with increased demands for affordable housing and establishing safe neighborhoods. Extension Family and Consumer Sciences worked closely with the *Archway Partnership Project* in addressing safe neighborhoods and affordable housing.

### **EXCELLENCE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING AWARD**

#### **Diana Doggett, Kentucky**

Sometimes you need to do more than talk about problems. The Jumpin' Jaguars program worked because a school got serious about health education and more physical activity. The community program focuses on healthy lifestyles, asthma treatment/prevention and health careers opportunities.

## **WESTERN REGION NATIONAL AWARDS**

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

#### **Ruth C. Jackson, Arizona**

Ruth Jackson, of Arizona has been a member for ten years. She has served on the national board as member resources vice president and in several affiliate leadership roles. She manages EFNEP and FSNEP in Maricopa County and implemented accountability measures for her staff of ten paraprofessionals.

#### **Yvonne Nicholson, California**

Yvonne Nicholson's community outreach programs have included food safety public service, life skills workshops, first time home buyer seminars, and diabetes awareness. The major focus of her research programs are related to multicultural dietary food practices. Yvonne has been involved with conducting research focusing on African-American, Latino, Russian and Vietnamese cultures.

#### **Marsha Lockard, Idaho**

Marsha Lockard has served as an Extension Educator for the University of Idaho for 14 years. She has conducted educational programs in the areas of nutrition and health, family resource management, food safety, and 4-H for both youth and adult audiences.

#### **Jennifer Wells, Montana**

Jennifer Wells serves as a Family and Consumer Science and 4-H Youth Development Agent. Some areas of her programming include food safety, family mealtime, Powerful Tools for Caregivers, family finances, and food and nutrition.

#### **Connie Moyers, New Mexico**

Working as Roosevelt County Extension Home Economist for over ten years, Connie Moyers has taught families, adults and 4-H members many important lessons, through timely programs,

workshops and newsletters, in the areas of nutrition, consumer education, health topics, leadership and other life issues.

### **Darlene Christensen, Utah**

Throughout her twelve years of working for Cooperative Extension, Darlene Christensen has touched the lives of families, children and adults through programming in finance, hand hygiene, food safety, and youth development. Her biggest effort has been in hand washing education. She designed a web site and invented a portable hand washing education tool.

### **Vicki Hayman, Wyoming**

Vicki Hayman is committed to the Cooperative Extension's mission, evidenced by accomplishments and positive impacts since 1997, when she began working for the University of Wyoming. Through educational programming and networking, her programs received recognition for excellence on local, regional and state levels. Nutrition, food safety, and 4-H youth received the benefits.

## **CONTINUED EXCELLENCE**

### **Kristine Long, Alaska**

Dr. Kristine Long has served as district agent, program leader and foods specialist for Cooperative Extension, University of Alaska Fairbanks, since January 1977. Her expertise is preservation of Alaska's indigenous foods and food product development. Kristy's goal is to insure that traditional and current foods knowledge is documented and accessible.

### **Marsha Goetting, Montana**

Marsha Goetting is an Extension Family Economics Specialist at Montana State University-Bozeman. She has presented over 800 workshops reaching over 25,000 Montanans with financial and estate planning information. She has also authored 75 MontGuides plus an interactive

web site: Dying Without a Will in Montana—Who Gets Your Property.

### **Paula Roybal Sanchez, New Mexico**

Paula Roybal Sánchez believes professional development and collaborative partnerships are critical to addressing the needs of clientele and providing them with relevant programs. Her innovative educational programs focus on nutrition and health for both youth and adult audiences. Paula continues to enhance her professional development with mentoring and association memberships.

### **Margie Memmott, Utah**

An active faculty member of Utah State University Extension for over sixteen years, Margie Memmott works on a local, state, regional and national level to empower others to apply life skills in consumer resource management, finance, nutrition and health, food preservation, family and human development, community development, volunteer leadership, and youth development.

### **Chris Koehler, Washington**

Chris Koehler recently completed a sabbatical, studying distance education methods she'll use to reach rural families and young adults with personal finance information. She added nutrition education programming after relocating to western Washington in January.

### **Phyllis Lewis, Wyoming**

When Wyoming went to the area specialist concept, Phyllis Lewis, a thirteen-year Extension Educator, became a Northwest Area Nutrition and Food Safety Area Educator. Her wide range of educational programs spans the gamut from Food and Medicine Look-Alikes to food safety to Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Collection Days.

## **FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

**Luanne Boyer, Joy Akey, Gisele Jefferson, Faith Poet, Bonnie Sherman, Colorado**

A Healthier Weigh is a 12-week health and fitness challenge emphasizing increased activity and food choices rather than weight loss. Teams use pedometers to record weekly miles, and complete health and nutrition lessons on the Extension website. Teams only weigh at the beginning and end of the challenge.

## **DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD**

**Shirley Peterson, Katie Breyer, Connie Costello, Cheryl Frazer, Charles Go, Myraim Grajales-Hall, Margaret Johns, Keith Nathaniel, Patti Wooten Swanson, Karen Varcoe, California**

Addressing what and how teens said they wanted to learn about money, Money Talks increases the financial literacy of teens to help them make fiscally sound decisions. Comprised of fun and interactive teen guides, leader's guides, web site, and videos, teens can explore, learn and apply valuable financial life skills.

## **EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD**

**Jeanne Brandt, Susan Busler, Oregon**

Mold in Homes: Prevention, Assessment and Resolution was a multi-faceted, multi-media approach to educating extension staff, consumers and housing professionals on the topic of indoor moisture and mold control. Live educational programs were taped for later use, a web site was developed and materials were distributed state-wide.

## **PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD**

**Harriet Shaklee, Barbara Abo, Diane Demarest, Lorie Dye, Carol Hampton, Janica Hardin, Cindy Kinder, Valdesue Steele, Kathee Tiftt, Susan Traver, Idaho**

The University of Idaho Extension investigated emergent literacy components in the Parents as Teachers curriculum, found it to be thoroughly infused with literacy content, and that parent's and children's literacy-relevant behaviors increased while in the program. These findings strengthened UI Extension's early learning outreach to parents, professionals, and policy makers.

## **NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS**

### **CENTRAL REGION FINALISTS**

#### **GRACE FRYSINGER FELLOWSHIP**

**Susan Hansen, Nebraska**

Susan Hansen will be traveling to Oregon State Extension to gather ideas for recruiting, teaching and evaluating to enhance her work with the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program and the 4-H youth program. She will also explore the possibility of a study tour by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension staff.

#### **EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Marilyn Fox, Nebraska**

Being open to change and expanding the Extension horizons are two strengths of Marilyn Fox. From reaching hundreds statewide with poverty awareness to reaching thousands through methamphetamine education, she has broadened the scope of what it means to be an

Extension Educator. Marilyn's programming has helped reach new audiences.

### **FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

#### **Kathleen Olson, Jodi Dworkin, Colleen Gengler, Chris Gonzalez, Minnesota**

The *Teen Talk* project helped parents in supporting their teens to make healthy and responsible choices. Parents gained information to better communicate with their teen, feel supported in their parenting role and feel less worried and frustrated. Fact sheets are a low cost way to effectively disseminate research-based education to families.

### **PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

#### **Lisa Devine-Barribeau, Wisconsin**

Lisa Devine-Barribeau has worked with UW-Extension since 1996 and is skilled in gaining client trust and meeting or exceeding program outcomes. Lisa serves families by developing unique needed resources including teaching resources, fact sheets, and newsletters. She has made more than 200 contacts this year, 100 through home visiting alone.

### **DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD**

#### **Cindy Barnett, Indiana**

*Focus on Financial Management* was created to meet a need identified by Purdue Extension. This program is a series of eight financial management units targeted to help middle income adults increase their financial management knowledge and skills.

### **MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD**

#### **Sherry Rocha, Illinois**

Responding to requests, informational DVDs for Latino families new and searching for information to help them adjust in new communities smoothly were created. This new and vibrant DVD tells families in a culturally relevant manner what to consider when choosing a childcare situation for children.

### **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES EDUCATION GRANT**

#### **Cindy Oliveri, Maurus Brown, Mary Gulas, Kathy Jelley, Sheila Maggard, Monadine Mattey, Lucinda Miller, Treva Williams, Ohio**

According to a recent study, most Ohio residents do not consume the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables daily. A series of fact sheets will be developed to promote consumption of locally grown fruits and vegetables. These fact sheets will be available at roadside markets, farmers markets, and grocery stores.

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE TRAINING AWARD**

#### **Debra Schroeder, John DeFrain, Janet Hanna, Marjorie Kostelnik, Eileen Krumbach, Mary Nelson, Sarah Effken Purcell, Ruth Vonderohe, Mary K. Warner, LaDonna Werth, Nebraska**

Communication with families is essential in building successful childcare provider/family relationships. *Communicating with Families* is a new interactive training program developed by the University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension. It helps participants evaluate and strengthen their current skills, understand concerns of families and develop techniques for effectively using "I" statements.

## **EASTERN REGION FINALISTS**

### **PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

#### **Karen Toohey, Maine**

Karen Toohey has been a Nutrition Associate for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension *Eat Well* Nutrition Program since 1996 working with limited-income families. Her work with *Celebrate the Harvest* brings together fresh produce, fun cooking classes and folks who may otherwise not have the produce available to them.

### **MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD**

#### **Dawn Olson, Sherri L. Abburzzi, Pennsylvania**

Responding to requests, an informational DVD was created for Latino families who are new and searching for information to help them adjust smoothly into a community. This new and vibrant DVD tells families in a culturally relevant manner what to consider when choosing a childcare situation for children.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD**

#### **Cindy Shoemaker, Pennsylvania**

*Smoke Free Town* is an interactive walk-through town to help educate first and second graders on the dangers of tobacco. The town consists of streets, buildings, cars and signage which sets the stage for speaking to youth about tobacco issues. Children move through the streets while interacting with educators.

### **FOOD SAFETY AWARD**

#### **Karen Ensle, Janet Brun, Joan Lytle, New Jersey**

*Preventing Listeriosis: A Food Borne Disease* is a PowerPoint presentation that describes the food borne disease, *Listeria monocytogenes*. A

brochure, *Listeriosis: Food Safety to Protect Your Family* has been developed to accompany this program. Both the PowerPoint and brochure are available in English and Spanish.

## **SOUTHERN REGION FINALISTS**

### **GRACE FRYSINGER FELLOWSHIP**

#### **Nelda Moore, Kentucky**

The Cooperative Extension in Louisville, Kentucky, largest metropolitan area, provides many opportunities, resources, and challenges. An approved study to visit five metropolitan Extension Services will encourage new program ideas to efficiently and effectively reach the citizens in Jefferson County.

### **EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

#### **Margaret Grenell Rogers, Mississippi**

Margaret Grenell Rogers is a true professional. Her commitment to professional development is evident through her participation in county, state, and national meetings. Margaret applies information learned through involvement in professional organization to implementation of innovative programs and believes networking with other professionals is essential.

### **FLORENCE HALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

#### **Joann Milam, Georgia**

To address childhood obesity, the Washington County Chronic Disease Consortium received a grant for \$350,000 to establish a multidisciplinary martial arts fitness program. Seventy-five students are enrolled. Joann Milam wrote the curriculum for these nutrition classes and oversees the program. She also serves on the Executive Board.

**Pamela York, Kelli Bonifer, Kathy Brannon, Georgia Burton, Edith Lovett, Audrey Myers, Becky Nash, Christy Nuetzman, Debbie Shepherd, Kentucky**

The Lake Cumberland Cancer Consortium and the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service joined partners to offer a multi-faceted skin cancer public awareness and early detection program to educate the public. The project reached an estimated 50,000 participants age 5 to 80+.

**Pamela Lee, Mississippi**

For 26 years, families have had the opportunity to grow through participation in Pamela Lee's Extension programs. As a home economist, home economist with 4-H responsibilities, area home economist and county director, she has used traditional and innovative programming to meet needs of clientele in her area.

#### **DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD**

**Linda Chappell, Nita Cooper, Susan Holman, Trudy McManus, Renee Myers, Tanya Yates, Arkansas**

*Ready, Set, Graduate* is a financial management program that involves high school seniors in a hands-on learning experience that prepares them for the future by experiencing real-life situations. Students participate in educational sessions in the morning, and they apply knowledge learned in the *Mall of Life* in the afternoon.

**Beverly Samuel, Debra J. Foster, Virginia**

Financial illiteracy is a major issue facing youth in the nation. *Reality Store*, a financial simulation, was utilized to increase knowledge of 3,992 students in Loudoun County, Virginia regarding making wise financial choices, budgeting, decision-making and career planning. Staff developed a program model that can be replicated nationwide.

#### **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES EDUCATION GRANT**

**Jessica Hill, Edda Cotto-Rivera, Georgia**

Lifestyle choices made early in life have a significant impact on chronic disease developed in adulthood. In the United States, poor diet and physical inactivity lead to 200,000 deaths per year. 35% of DeKalb County adults are overweight while 21% are obese. This program will address issues of obesity and overweight.

#### **EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD**

**Becky Chenhall, Jorge H. Atilas, Ines Beltran, Ginger Bennett, Nancy Bridges, Edda Cotto-Rivera, Georgia**

The *Radon Education Program* of the University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences began promoting radon awareness in 2003. Radon gas, the second-leading cause of lung cancer, kills 21,000 people each year, 600 of which are Georgians. UGA teaches radon health effects, testing, and radon mitigation.

#### **FOOD SAFETY AWARD**

**Dee Lee Smith, Jenna Anding, Lynette Babcock, Alex Brandt, Jenny Dean, Mary Denton, Rebecca Dittmar, Sally Garrett, Davey Griffin, Marilyn Hale, Ramona Kellam, Patricia Rasor, Rayna Rogiers, Pamela Terry, Britta Thompson, Peggy Van Laanen, Texas**

*Food Protection Management* is a twelve-lesson bi-lingual course that offers food service managers a learning environment complete with coursebook, hands-on activities, videos, Powerpoint, and now audio CDs to teach commercial food safety principles. There are more than 9,560 food service managers certified in commercial food safety utilizing this course.

## **EXCELLENCE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING AWARD**

**Rhea Bentley, Marie Harrell, Beverly Robidous, Kena Torbert, Georgia**

“Thank you,” “Please,” and “You’re Welcome.”

From table manners to phone etiquette, youth in 16 counties learn the importance of manners and etiquette that would make Emily Post proud.

Children learn these skills to be used at home, and away, for a lifetime.

## **MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD**

**Marsha Goetting, Montana**

The *American Indian Probate Reform Act* was enacted to address the problem of fractionation on reservations. Fractionation means that tribal members inherit “undivided interests” that are often shared with a hundred or more others. This program educated Indian landowners/heirs about AIPRA to help them avoid further fractionation of ancestral lands.

## **WESTERN REGION FINALISTS**

### **PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

**Krista Mugford, California**

Krista Mugford successfully implemented a family nutrition and fitness program throughout San Luis Obispo County. She assisted in the development, pilot-testing and evaluation of an innovative program that teams a child with an adult.

Together, teams learn fun ways to make healthy changes, and 96% of participants reported positive behavior changes.

### **DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD**

**Joanne Roueche, Utah**

*Untangle the Holidays* is a financial management program designed to help people plan and avoid unnecessary holiday debt. Consumers are given tools to help budget, track spending, set goals and make wise consumer choices. The program has been widely accepted reaching over 50,000 through presentations, media, and web sites.