

# Extension News

2001 Annual Report

March 21, 2002

This 2001 Annual Report highlights program activities of the Penn State Cooperative Extension Fayette County in such areas as

- Agriculture,
- Community Resource and Economic Development,
- Family Development and Resource Management,
- 4-H and Youth Development,
- Leadership and Volunteer Development,
- Natural Resources and Environmental Management,
- Nutrition, Diet, and Health.

Extension programs are made possible through a cooperative effort of federal, state, and county support. We would like to thank our representatives and county commissioners for continuing to finance extension and extension programs.

**Extension News**  
Editor: Lucinda Robbins  
Assistant Editor: Sis Hughes

## County Extension Director Celebrates Past and Looks Toward the Future

By Donald C. Fretts

Just twelve short months ago I offered my first CED report to you: the citizens, political leaders, volunteers, and supporters of Penn State Cooperative Extension, Fayette. And, within this past year the staff and volunteers of Penn State Cooperative Extension, Fayette have continued to maintain the non-formal educational programming that has become traditional for the county.

The base programs through which residents' needs and issues are addressed include:

- \*Agriculture
- \*Community Resource

and Economic Development

\*Family Development and Resource Management

\*4-H and Youth Development

\*Leadership and Volunteer Development

\*Natural Resources and Environmental Management

\*Nutrition, Diet and Health

Included in this Annual Report are individual staff reports that summarize the diversity of educational programming and documentation of impacts resulting from

these program accomplishments. I wish to personally thank staff and volunteers for meeting the challenge and making a difference.

I also would like

*"How can Cooperative Extension reach a more diverse audience and provide life-changing educational experiences with limited human and financial resources?"*

to thank our County Commissioners, plus our state and federal legislators for providing the basic financial resources and other support to make Cooperative Extension available to the citi-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Board President Celebrates Extension

By Linda Rooker

Dear Friends of Fayette County Cooperative Extension:

On behalf of the members of the Fayette County Cooperative Extension Board, I'd like to

welcome you to the 86th Annual Fayette County Cooperative Extension Meeting.

Your continued support of the Extension Program in Fayette

County is so very important and much appreciated.

Cooperative Extension has certainly changed since I was a 4-H

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Farmers Learn Application of New Technologies

Contact: Donald C. Fretts

The 2001 Crop Planning Workshop focused on practical application of precision farming technologies in southwest Pennsylvania as well as alternative tillage options. Of those who attended, 94% indicated the topics were informative and 88% expected to change some practices in their operations.

At the crop supply dealer



Participants get hands-on technology training at CTAP

education workshop, Penn State agronomists and a biologist from California University of PA presented topics ranging from soil compaction to warm season

grasses. Attendees stated the information provided is useful in their work with producers.

Cooperative Extension offered a new initiative to horse and/or stable owners

about the basics of soil health and renovating pastures. Attendees not only approved the program content, but also requested additional workshops. Using a pre/post test, attendees doubled their correct answers on the test.

More than 150 farmers attended the third and final CTAP, Computer Technology for Agricultural Producers, which was held at two locations in western Pennsylvania. At the local event, held at Penn State Fayette, more than 60 farmers got hands-on experience using new software and learning

## Corn Subject of Cooperative Extension Studies

Contact: Donald C. Fretts

Cooperative Extension led three studies in the region in 2001 focusing on corn crop management and corn silage. In addition, extension supported nine of the Five Acre Corn Club members in a statewide contest.

The Crop Management Research and Demonstration project focused on corn crop management. Along with Penn State specialists, Cooperative Extension Agents, and other statewide participants, farmers from Fayette and Washington counties participated in two research projects, Chlorophyll Meter/Nitrogen Estimator on Field Corn and a Corn Starter Fertilizer plot.

Preliminary results of the Chlorophyll Meter / Nitrogen Estimator study indicate the chlorophyll meter can predict the need for

additional nitrogen on corn. In the Corn Starter Fertilizer plot study it was discovered that fields that test high for phosphorus levels may not benefit from the use of a starter fertilizer.

A local study focused both on evaluating the quality of corn silage when environmental and cultural practices may differ and on comparing forage lab analysis results via "in situ" and "in vitro" analysis techniques.

Preliminary results indicate there can be significant variations of feed quality due to environment and cultural practices. In addition,

different interpretations of silage quality can be a result of differing forage lab techniques.

Nine Five Acre Corn Club members and one soybean producer from the region participated in the statewide exercise and contest which strives to improve corn and soybean crop management.

The Pennsylvania Five Acre Corn Club provides an opportunity for corn producers and advisors to share information about intensive corn production and recognizes individuals who have achieved the highest yields in the state.

*In the Corn Starter Fertilizer Plot study, it was discovered that fields that test high for phosphorus levels may not benefit from the use of a starter fertilizer.*

## Programs Improve Childcare in Fayette County

Contact: Cathy Brady

Research has shown that the most important years for a child's development are the early years. In order to improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of child care, Cooperative Extension offers the Better Kid Care program.

For the past three years, the Fayette County Better Kid Care Program has presented training and shared resources with early child caregivers at



Cathy Brady conducts Better Kid Care Training

minimal cost to participants. In 2001, more than 200 people participated in Better Kid Care activities in Fayette County.

Parents, home-based caregivers, and center-based caregivers are encouraged to expand their knowledge and skills by attending workshops on such varied topics as: getting parents involved, telling stories, biting, sharing, and backyard science activities. As added

incentive to attend, participants can receive continuing education units (CEUs), Act 48 Hours, and credits from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare.

Program resources extend beyond the workshop trainings to satellite workshops, learn-at-home videos, a newsletter, telephone hotline (1-800-859-8340) and website (<http://www.betterkidcare.psu.edu>). In addition, parents and other caregivers can get a free Better Kid Care kit by calling 1-800-452-9108.

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## New Agent Supports Communities and Businesses

Contact: Lucinda Baron Robbins

Supporting individuals and families in the places they live and work has always been a hallmark of Cooperative Extension.

In 2001, Cooperative Extension welcomed a new community and economic development agent who is committed to strengthening our communities for individuals,

families, organizations and businesses.

The community and economic development field involves many varied interests and issues throughout the region. In order to facilitate awareness and understanding of local needs, Cooperative Extension has made a con-

certed effort to generate awareness of its community development programs using the media and direct mail information sharing.

In addition, the community and economic development agent is compiling community data to increase our understanding of the communities in which we live.

## Do You Know Your Dirt?

If you don't know what's in your soil, get it tested!

Available at the Fayette County Cooperative Extension office, Penn State soil test kits are a great way to determine the characteristics of your garden, backyard, or



Improve your gardening and planting by testing your soil

field at a low cost.

For six dollars, you can purchase a soil test kit, which helps you to understand the fertility of your soil and to determine the optimum

lime and fertilizer requirements for your crop.

In the past year, 375 soil samples were sent to Penn State University in State College for analysis, a five percent increase from 2000. Most people receive results within 10 days of mailing the soil-filled kit.

Contact: William Gallagher

## Grant Writing Courses Support Local Non-Profits

Contact: Lucinda Baron Robbins

Money may not grow on trees; but if you have the skills, it's available for the picking.

About 60 people acquired these skills at grant writing workshops held in conjunction with the Fayette Chamber of Commerce. Additional workshops are being developed with a variety of community partners.

Widespread interest in grant writing as a development tool is evidenced by the variety of organizations represented at the

workshops including: elected officials, non-profit agencies, environmental volunteers, history and art advocates, students, and educators.

Almost all participants reported learning something new about grant writing at the workshops, and 86 per-



Robbins teaches a grant writing workshop.

cent said they would be developing a grant proposal by the end of 2001.

The community and economic development agent co-wrote the manual for these workshops titled, "Finding the Funds You Need: A Guide for Grantseekers." This manual has been published on the Internet at <http://www.cdtoolbox.org>.

Some workshop participants have already written successful grants that support

## County Extension Director Looks Toward Future

(Continued from page 1)

zens they represent.

For the balance of this CED report, I would like to focus not on the past but on the future. Because simply maintaining what we have done well is not a formula for progress or success in the future. The term "change" is often considered to be a dirty word, however when organizations fail, the leaders most always lament something like "If we only had...", thereby indicating they failed to change.

Penn State Cooperative Extension is attempting to change. Under the direction of University President, Gram Spanier, Cooperative Extension is the vehicle of choice for the university's expan-

*Our ultimate challenge is to be reborn with new goals, and educational initiatives that meet the needs of a changing demographic base.*

sion of outreach efforts to include all colleges within the university and to reach all of Pennsylvania's citizens.

What that means to Cooperative Extension in Fayette County is, "How can Cooperative Extension reach a more diverse audience and provide life-changing educational experiences with limited human and financial resources?"

To begin finding solutions, a Strategic Planning committee has been formed to analyze that question and provide recommendations to the staff and Fayette Cooperative Extension Association Advisory Board. Our ultimate challenge is to be reborn with new goals, and educational initiatives that meet the needs of a changing demographic base. This may eventually alter the ways we currently operate and it may mean a change of some of the targeted audiences.

One thing I know for cer-

tain, diversity and technology will play a critical role in the rebirth of Cooperative Extension in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Increasing input from political, professional, and social groups, plus better geographical and socio-economic representation on our volunteer groups will be positive for public and financial support.

The adoption of new technology that assists researchers and educators to deliver training will be critical to meeting the educational needs of our "too" busy populace. Using satellite and computer enhanced delivery systems will become increasingly commonplace to add convenience to learning.

Expanding the 4-H program to include more after-school programming will reach more young people with supplemental life skills development opportunities that can only have positive ef-

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# EFNEP Teaches Families About Eating Right

Contact Cheryl Chilplaskey or Carol Cottom

In 2001, Nutrition Education Advisers worked with more than 1,000 people in the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

EFNEP provides information to limited-resource families and high-risk audiences that addresses critical issues, including hunger, infant mortality, prenatal



Participants learn about nutrition in SuperCupboard

nutrition and poverty. The Nutrition Education Advisers teach nutrition education to resource stressed young families and youth.

This program year the Nutrition Education Advisers impacted 412 families and 640 family members. Almost all of these families fell at or below the Federal poverty level, a yearly income of \$17,050 or less for a family of four. In addition, the Advisers educated more than 350 youth in 26 groups

this year, including organized clubs, short-term programs, school enrichment programs and school-age child care groups

The "SuperCupboard Program" is a model for stretching community resources. The Fayette County Nutrition Education Advisers work closely with the Fayette County Food Bank in providing nutrition education to program participants. This is an example of how community involvement and coalition building work to help families build self-esteem and self-

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Programs Improve Childcare in Fayette

*(Continued from page 3)*

The Better Kid Care project is subsidized by the PA Department of Public Welfare and the Keystone University Research Corporation Child Care Training Program. Locally, Cooperative Extension has partnered with Head Start, Echo Child Development Center, Penn State Fayette Continuing Education, and the Uniontown Jewish Com-

munity Center to deliver workshop trainings.

In addition to the Better Kid Care project, Cooperative Extension family living agents in the southwest sponsored the free "Toddler Topics" newsletter. This six-part, learn-at-home series is for parents,

caregivers, and others interested in learning about early childhood development. The series included information on development, health and nutrition suggestions, and educational activities to share with toddlers.

*"Toddler Topics" newsletter helps parents and other caregivers with information and strategies.*

## County Extension Director Looks Toward Future

*(Continued from page 4)*

facts on the future of the county. In addition, with this target audience the value of character can be supported and encouraged.

For more than 80 years, Cooperative Extension has been an innovative and driving force for the enhancement of lifestyles and lead-

ership development of many rural and urban citizens in Fayette County. The focus for what Cooperative Extension has been about is not diminishing, but it is changing and additional needs are surfacing.

And so, Cooperative Extension needs to look to the future also. It is my pleasure to be here at this

time and I hope to be an optimistic catalyst that can position Cooperative Extension in Fayette County to be a positive force for years to come.

Thank You,

*Donald C. Fretts*

# Master Gardeners Contribute to Community

Contact: William Gallagher

With only 30 members, the Penn State Master Gardeners in Fayette County beautify our county, teach youth and adults about planting, encourage conservation, and assist in horticultural research.

The Fayette County Master Gardener program provides individuals with extensive gardening training. In return, these individuals volunteer their time and talent to teach and promote gardening to other residents.

## Education and Teaching

Master Gardeners are available to answer your gardening related questions during regular office hours at the Cooperative Extension office, 724-438-0111. In addition, Master Gardeners make pres-

entations to various community groups on everything from plant diseases to garden design. On Saturdays in the spring and summer, people kept up to date on gardening by listening to Master Gardeners on local radio station WMBS.

In the spring, Master Gardeners sponsored a tree planning and maintenance education event to coincide with the Fayette County Conservation District's seedling sale. In addition, attendees had the opportunity to purchase other plants from the Master Gardeners. As a special addition to this event, select Master Gardeners planted

memorial maple trees at the Fairgrounds.

## Demonstration Gardens

Gateway gardens announce a community with beautiful, living art and demonstrate civic involvement and pride.

Master Gardeners are among the leaders in planting, maintaining, and teaching others with gateway gardens in Union-

town, Connellsville, and Brownsville, as well as perennial flower beds on Routes 119 and 40.

At one of the Uniontown sites, Master



Master Gardeners present plaque to California University of Pennsylvania President Dr. Angelo Armenti

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## EFNEP Teaches About Eating Right

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sufficiency.

The Nutrition Education Advisers also work with participants during individual home visits, in shelter programs, bridge housing, and farmstands. Pregnant and parenting teens learn the "Eating for a Better Start" curriculum, and share this learning with husbands, boyfriends, and others.

EFNEP works closely with

community groups including: the East End Community Center; New Directions School; Fayette County STEP Program; PATHS Program; the Success Academy; Vocational-Technical Schools; Intermediate Units; the Lutheran Brotherhood; Fayette County Community Action Agency; Fayette County Drug and Alcohol;

Healthy Start; Women, Infants, and

Children; Head Start; Fayette County Housing Authority; Salvation Army; City Mission; Fayette ARC; Searights Learning Center; and Interstate Realty Corporation (a housing management company).

In addition to our partners, a total of 168 youth and adult volunteers, half of which were former EFNEP clients, worked with the EFNEP Program this year. They donated approximately 36 hours each week to

*Buying locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables saves you money, supports the local economy, and gives you bet-*

*At least two-thirds of EFNEP adult participants showed improvement in food safety, nutrition, and resource management practices*

# Cooperative Business is Economic Alternative

Contact: Donald C. Fretts

Beginning in 1998, interested individuals from the agricultural cooperative community, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the PA Department of Agriculture, and others had an idea. They wanted to create a statewide organization devoted to helping groups develop business cooperatives that could enhance rural development and return monetary dividends to their owners.

Targeting rural Pennsylvania, especially Appalachian areas, the Keystone Development

Center was created.

The Center has already met several of its early goals including the development of a resource guide, and providing financial and organizational support to several fledgling cooperatives.

In 2001, the Keystone Development Center received two grants from the USDA totaling more than a quarter million dollars. This funding will help the Center provide support to additional cooperative businesses.

Locally, three new cooperatives are receiving support from the

Center. In addition, we are pleased to have our own Donald Fretts chair the Board of Directors for the Keystone Development Center.

*Some Cooperative Businesses*

*you may have heard of:*

*Ocean Spray*

*Welch's*

*True Value*

*Servistar*

*Land O' Lakes*

## Master Gardeners Contribute to Community

*(Continued from page 6)*

Gardeners purchased and planted almost 1,500 pansies in the fall. When they flowered in the spring, the plant varieties were evaluated then given to the public to spread the knowledge and the beauty throughout the community.

### Trial Gardens

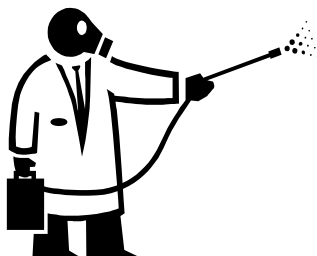
Master Gardeners supported Penn State horticultural research by participating in the 2001 Select Trial Gardens. This cooperative program helps to advance ornamental horticulture by providing unbiased evaluations of plant performance. Outstanding plants are identified and promoted for further use.

The select trial gardens were located on the campus of California University of Pennsylvania. Master Gardeners met there and offered garden tours throughout the growing season. In addition to being the location for the select trial gardens, California University hosted the Master Gardener training classes for 32 participants from

## Getting and Maintaining a Pesticide Applicator License

Contact: Donald C. Fretts or William Gallagher

Cooperative Extension, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, presented training sessions for those interested in maintaining and/or ac-



PA requires pesticide applicators to be licensed. Extension provides information and training

quiring their pesticide applicator license.

More than 450 producers in the Fayette, Greene, and Washington County Cluster

took part in the trainings on such topics as pesticide laws, chemicals, and agronomic research methods and practices. Almost 90 people took one or more tests at the Fayette County Fairgrounds or California University of Pennsylvania.

# 4-H Program Promotes Youth Development

Contact: Cathy Brady

The 4-H Youth Development program helps young people between the ages of eight and nineteen years become self-directed, productive, and contributing members of a diverse society.

4-H members learn by doing, completing projects in an almost limitless variety of subject areas. In completing projects, members learn teamwork, leadership, responsibility, and commitment. 4-H builds character.

In Fayette County, more than 900 young people participated in almost 50 organized clubs in 2001 (an additional 1,900 members participated with school clubs, see below). They were supported by more than 100 dedicated adult volunteers. These trained leaders advise and teach youth skills in varied 4-H projects ranging from livestock production and plants to sewing, nutrition, and dog training.

## 4-H Participates in Fair Activities

In 2001, the 4-H Youth Building at the Fayette County Fair stirred with excitement.

Impressive 4-H member project displays were joined by such events as Health and Safety Day and a Countywide Youth Music Revue. Gardening and cooking demonstrations drew crowds while the new Rainbow Room provided a shady respite where parents and children could enjoy video presentations and learn about the 4-H program.

More than 300 4-H members competed at the Fair in areas such as: dairy, livestock, horse, vegetables, club exhibits, horticultural, agronomic, clothing, and crafts.

County 4-H members volunteer to operate the 4-H Refreshment Stand in cooperation with adult volunteer leaders. Monies raised selling refreshments are used to support 4-H educational programming in the county.

20 different clubs and almost 400 young people and adult leaders worked shifts at the refreshment stand to make the effort a success.

## Teens Work Together as Leaders

The teen years are often the most challenging for young people

and parents alike. The 4-H Teen County Council provides a forum



4-H Teen Council members perform community service

in which teenagers can practice leadership, learn responsibility, and have fun in a safe, supportive, educational environment.

Fayette County Teen County Council serves as a liaison between extension staff, 4-H Club leaders, and the 4-H Advisory Committee. Council members help to plan, develop, and implement programs for all 4-H members.

Teen County Council members share their leadership skills with younger 4-H members and with the community through

# School Children Learn Their 3 R's and Their 4 H's

Contact: William Gallagher

We know schoolchildren learn the three R's – reading, writing, and arithmetic, but did you know they also learn the four H's – head, heart, hands, and health. In Fayette County, 4-H programs reach into all of the local school districts providing academic enrich-

ment and character building.

More than 1,900 students, 30 percent of whom have special needs, work with 84 leaders in 80 school-based clubs. Projects undertaken include: embryology, plants and trees, kids in control, leadership development, food and cook-

ing, orienteering, and wildlife.

Although projects last but a few months, students are left with the memory and satisfaction of a task accomplished, as well as formal recognition tokens. Gardening projects often benefit the entire school or community with plants and trees.

## Young People Learn Entrepreneurial Skills

Contact: Lucinda Baron Robbins

"Airplanes! I've got paper airplanes here. Two neo-diamonds a piece. That's it for this fun toy. Get yours before we run out. Airplanes . . ."

Mimicking a carnival barker, one boy shouted this phrase throughout the room to market his paper airplane business. It worked; within ten minutes he was completely sold out.



Piggybanks will be full after kids finish Mini-Society

An entrepreneurial genius you might say. Maybe, but one thing is certain, he is not exceptionally different from the other participants in Mini-Society,© an entrepreneurship education program from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Last summer 60 boys and girls, aged five to 12 years, participated in Mini-Society© programs at the Uniontown YMCA and the East End United Community Center. Children

gained an understanding of economic concepts, teamwork, self-discipline, and mathematics through the creation of their own self-governing societies (NeoCity and MiniMunchkinland).

Within each society, kids started their own businesses, sold to each other, and established their own rules. For instance, the Mini-Munchkins decided against price ceilings. Although they liked the idea of low prices, as business owners they valued the freedom to dictate prices for their goods and services.

## Building Communities One Neighborhood at a Time

Contact: Lucinda Baron Robbins

A small group of citizens in Brownsville are working to change their world one neighborhood at a time. The "SouthSide Renaissance" group is working toward the revitalization of the south side neighborhood in the hopes that the spirit of renewal will spread through Brownsville and beyond.

Cooperative Extension has

assisted this group by facilitating the community building process, providing expert advice on development strategies, and recruiting neighbors to participate in an inclusive community vision-

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

ing process and action plan.

As a first step, the "SouthSide Renaissance" group has already done some strategic visioning and has received funding to put that vision in place.

## Family Living Program Hosts Annual Holiday Bazaar

Contact: Cathy Brady

The Family Living Advisory Committee hosted the 36th Annual Penn State Cooperative Extension Homemaker's Holiday Bazaar. More than 500 people attended the event, titled "Autumn Extravaganza," at the Fayette County Fairgrounds on September 29, 2001.

Funds raised at the event benefit the Family Living Program in Fayette County. The Committee provides funding to local residents through its Self-Development Grant Program that supports continuing education, refresher courses, career training workshops, etc.

Not only did event-goers have the opportunity to explore items from the 30 vendors at the bazaar, they were also treated to educational demonstrations on cake decorating, paper bag art, quilting, and bowmaking.

# Dairy Farming Supported With Educational Activities

Contact: Roger Keith

With a focus on improving milk quality, extension conducted four regional milking schools, demonstrated udder singeing to 200 dairy producers, and provided individual assistance in developing and implementing a mastitis control and prevention plan for eight producers.

Four regional cow management workshops were held for dairy producers and their employees to teach systematic "problem" cow detection and evaluation, especially during the transition period two weeks before and after calving. Extension, in cooperation with the PA Department of Agriculture, held a regional informational meeting on Foot and Mouth Disease and "Mad Cow" (BSE) Disease and provided information to local media.

Extension supports improving dairy businesses by teaching owners how to improve facilities and manage finances. For instance, technical assistance on the construction of freestall



barns, lighting, design, and construction of facilities was shared with current and new facilities managers.

Round III of USDA's Dairy Options Pilot Program (DOPP) was introduced to Fayette

County dairy producers. This program encourages producers to learn about and potentially adopt the use of dairy options, "insurance," as a risk management tool for reducing volatility in milk prices they receive. Six option contracts were purchased in Fayette County under the DOPP III Program in 2001.

The 4-H dairy program, with 32 Fayette County members, maintained an active schedule in 2001. Members went on two regional educational tours that included stops at the USDA Ag Research Station; various Washington D. C. attractions; the National 4-H Center; Kreider Farms; Pennfield Feed Mill; and Hershey's Chocolate World, for dessert. In addition, 80 members competed at the District Dairy

## Fayette County Agents Get Recognition Awards

**County Extension Director, Donald C. Fretts, was honored in 2001 with the following awards:**

National Association of County Agricultural Agents  
**National Finalist Communications Awards**  
VideoTape / Television Category  
"Family Farms"

Pennsylvania Association of County Agricultural Agents  
**PRIDE Award**  
Recognition of outstanding use of Public Relations in Daily Efforts

**Family Living and 4-H Youth Development Agent, Cathy Brady, was honored in 2001 with the following awards:**

Pennsylvania Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (PEAFCS)  
**Educational Publications Individual Award**  
Better Kid Care Satellite Workshop participant packets

Pennsylvania Association of Extension 4-H Agents  
**Search for Excellence in Teen Programming Team Award**  
Southwest Teen Retreat programs and activities

# Board President Celebrates Extension

(Continued from page 1)

member and must continue to change in order to meet the needs of today's society. I have heard it said more than once the "Cooperative Extension is the best kept secret in Fayette County."

In an effort to spread the word about cooperative extension the board has formed new subcommittees. These subcommittees are comprised of extension board members as well as other members of the community. The new Strategic Planning Committee held its first meeting this month and will assist in developing long range plans for extension programming and staff.

The continued support of

County Commissioners Vince Vicites, Sean Cavanagh, and Ron Nehls is greatly appreciated. In addition to granting us a much needed in-

"Cooperative Extension is the best kept secret in Fayette County"

crease in or annual budget, they have offered us the possibility of a new home in the Federal

Building on Peter Street in Uniontown.

On a regional level, Southwest Regional Director Brenda Bernatowicz has revived the Regional PCCEA meetings. Board Treasurer, Linda Diamond, and I attended both the spring and fall meetings last year. The meetings are an excellent opportunity for us to meet extension board members from

other counties in the region and to exchange ideas with them.

As you view the displays the staff have provided and listen to their reports this evening, you will realize what a wide variety of programs they are making available to an even wider variety of people.

You should also realize how important you, as volunteers, are in ensuring the cooperative extension can continue to make an impact on the citizens of Fayette County.

Again, I thank you for your attendance here this evening and your continued support of the staff and board.

Sincerely,

## County Extension Staff Support Varied Project Areas

### Donald C. Fretts

County Extension Director

- Crop and Soil Science
- Cooperative Business
- Contact: [dcf3@psu.edu](mailto:dcf3@psu.edu)

### Lucinda Baron Robbins

Extension Agent

- Community Development
- Economic Development
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### Sheri Bergman

Bookkeeper

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### Catherine A. Brady

Extension Agent

- Family Living
- 4-H and Youth Development
- Contact: [cab287@psu.edu](mailto:cab287@psu.edu)

### Cheryl Chiplaskey

Nutrition Education Adviser

- EFNEP
- Contact: [cdc5@psu.edu](mailto:cdc5@psu.edu)

### Carol Cottom

Nutrition Education Adviser

- EFNEP
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### William Gallagher

Extension Agent

- Horticulture / Master Gardeners
- 4-H and Youth Development
- Contact: [wfg1@psu.edu](mailto:wfg1@psu.edu)

### Sis Hughes

Office Manager

- Contact: [slh26@psu.edu](mailto:slh26@psu.edu)

### Gail Tait

Nutrition Education Adviser

- EFNEP
- Resigned July 2001

### Other Extension Agents who program in the Cluster including Fayette County:

#### Roger Keith

- Dairy
- Contact: [rkk106@psu.edu](mailto:rkk106@psu.edu)

#### Robert McCurley

- Livestock
- Contact: [jrm22@psu.edu](mailto:jrm22@psu.edu)

#### Lee Young

- Commercial Horticulture
- Contact: [ljs32@psu.edu](mailto:ljs32@psu.edu)

## **Fayette County Cooperative Extension Association Board Members**

- Linda Rooker, President
- Ed Stanish, Vice-President
- Linda Diamond, Treasurer
- Marsha Regula, Secretary
- Garnet Breakiron
- Wendell Breakiron
- Lawrence Chaikcik
- Donna Eicher
- Michael Guappone
- Alan Kessler
- Julia King
- Sue Koleck
- E. J. Sherry
- Andrew Sholtis
- Debra Teslovich

## **For More Information About Extension Programs**

**Penn State Cooperative Extension, Fayette**  
<http://fayette.extension.psu.edu>

**Penn State University College of  
Agricultural Sciences**  
<http://www.cas.psu.edu>

**4-H Youth Programs in Pennsylvania**  
<http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu>

**Agriculture and the Food System**  
[http://www.extension.psu.edu/base\\_agriculture.htm](http://www.extension.psu.edu/base_agriculture.htm)

**Community Development Resources**  
[http://www.extension.psu.edu/base\\_cd\\_er.htm](http://www.extension.psu.edu/base_cd_er.htm)

**Expanded Food and Nutrition  
Education Program (EFNEP)**  
<http://nutred.cas.psu.edu/efnep/index.html>

**Master Gardeners**  
<http://hortweb.cas.psu.edu/extension/mg/mg.html>

**Better Kid Care**  
<http://betterkidcare.psu.edu>

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