A Note from the President:

It seems like everywhere I look, I see 4-H Educators giving the 212th degree – the definition of success. I would like to congratulate the members of the Marketing and Information and Member Recognition and Awards committees for their efforts in recognizing the excellent work of others in our Association.

I am excited to introduce the new chair of our Mentoring Committee – Janette Smith. You can learn more about Jan in the interview section below. She has a hard working committee to help her get up to speed – not an easy task considering we are half way through our year. However, Jan is excited to take the reigns, welcome our newest members, and help connect them with appropriate mentors. There is always a great need for experienced Educators to serve as mentors. Mentors are positive people by definition. It takes a positive person to give of him or herself to help another learn, grow and succeed. Bob Proctor, author, speaker and success coach defines a mentor as “someone who sees more talent and ability within you, than you see in yourself, and helps bring it out of you.”

There is a certain satisfaction that comes from sharing your knowledge with others. Whether it is a deep-seated desire to teach, the feeling that comes when we help someone accomplish a new task, or simply the desire to see others succeed, being a mentor affords us the chance feel this satisfaction.

A mentor is someone whose hindsight can become another’s foresight. Now it’s your turn to “turn up the heat” and give that extra degree – contact Jan, jes89@cornell.edu and let her know you want to be a mentor!

Have you met?

Nancy Schaff, State 4-H Science, Engineering, and Technology Specialist

Favorite Professional Development? I participated in NELD (the Northeast Extension Leadership Development program) 1996-1998. I was in a cohort with other Educators (4 from New York) from Northeast States. We had gatherings for several days at a time in Rhode Island, West Virginia, Lake George, and the Hudson Valley. It was an amazing learning experience with work to get with and to know other passionate extension professionals over an extended period of time.

Janette Smith, Oswego County Program Educator

Favorite Professional Development? Taking on the chair position of the Mentoring Committee. 

4-H background? 4-H alum in horse program and still has all of her books! 4-H club leader for 22 years in horse and rabbit and currently a horticulture club. Staff member for 11 years.

Hobbies? Grows and shows over 400 different varieties of Iris! Registered judge with the American Iris Society and is currently working on new introductions of Japanese Iris. She loves to bake and can make over 100 different pies! She collects postage stamps and coins. Also a Master Gardener and Master Preserver.

Food Preserver and volunteers in both programs. 

Family? Husband, Bill, two daughters, Jaime and Carrie, and a very active Springer Spaniel named nugget.

Food Preserver and volunteers in both programs. 

Pets? Strawberry Shortcake with homemade biscuits and real whipped cream!

Birthday? She is a Leo and born on the 6th day.

Contact? jes89@cornell.edu or CCE Oswego 315-963-7286

Photos of the Month

(left) Jefferson County 4-H Educator, Matt Greene, trying his hand on a high ropes course at their Youth and Family Retreat at Camp Wabasso.

(right) Jefferson County 4-H Educator, Holly Wirth taking a walk on the Black River Trail on a beautiful sunny day!

Thank you to Karen Soule for taking and sharing these photos!

Question/History Lesson of the Month:

Q. Who can take advantage of the professional development funds offered by NYSACCE4-HE?

A. Active & Life members may take advantage of professional development sponsored by NYSACCE4-HE at a reduced rate or no cost. Non-members pay a nominal fee for professional development opportunities supported by this grant.

Where was the first 4-H Club Conservation Training Camp – 1948 – held?