A Note from the President:

I don’t mean to rush time by speaking of autumn (which technically begins in three days) and all that it brings us personally and professionally. I have to say that I have always loved fall with crisp morning breezes, warm afternoon sunshine, vibrant while still earthy colors and comforting, down-home smells. I too love the other seasons, but it is all a matter of perspective when it comes to what each time of year offers us and what we offer it.

In the world of 4-H Educators, the transitions that take place from summer to fall can raise many emotions which we can then act on. For some this may be a time to take a bit of a breath before delving into the ending of the 4-H year and the exciting beginning of a new 4-H year. Others may feel a bit let down after a non-stop whirlwind summer full of activity and accomplishment. I would expect that most feel a mix of these emotions.

What can we as professionals do to support and mentor each other in this season? We can offer a listening ear to our colleagues and share knowledge. Some may find the days and weeks going by as challenging and overwhelming. We can be prepared to realize that not everyone will come to questions, suggestions and comments in the same way or with the same perspective. Perspective is defined in the Oxford dictionary as “a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; a point of view.” Just as we may form different attitudes about the season or time of year, as professionals can have patience and show respect for one another by recognizing that we may not all share the same point of view and in turn learn from each other’s point of view. I hope each of us has an opportunity to share their outlook and grow personally and professionally from others’ views.

I thank you all for your sharing, listening and mentoring no matter what stage of the life as a 4-H Educator you are in. The opportunities that this work affords us and all that we can learn from and with each other is beyond measure.

Barbara Floeser
Albany County
Why 4-H?
Lifelong learner with a passion for working with young people and at risk populations in particular.
Hobbies? Reading, fishing, walking, hiking, and spending time with friends.
Family? Married with 5 children (4 who are currently in college!), 2 grandchildren, a dog and a cat. Deeply enjoys family time including cooking together and family meals.
Food? Salad, comfort foods, and experimenting on recipes—they do not shy from spices!
Interesting? Run their vehicles, a car and a pick up truck, on waste vegetable oil that her husband collects at fast food restaurants and filters at home. Her license plate says “fry ride!”
Contact? bfloeser@cornell.edu or (518) 765-3500 or (518) 765-3546.

Have you put together a seasonal/ regional/ or theme basket for the auction at the state conference yet? Now is a great time to get together with colleagues to come up with your one of a kind idea.

Andy Turner and Nigel Gannon at the First Annual New York State Fair 4-H Smoothie Contest! (Photo by Benda Carpenter)

The 2014 NYSACCE4-HE Conference is October 14-16 at Villa Roma in Callicoon, NY.

This promises to be an outstanding professional development opportunity. Our keynote speaker, the highly respected state program leader from Minnesota, Dr. Dorothy Freeman will enthuse and encourage you about the important work we do as well as cause you to look at things in a different way. You are sure to find that our 20 workshop choices, our poster sessions and other activities will enhance local programming, enrich your professional capabilities and provide you with some of the essential elements we all need in our Extension youth development careers. You can still register!! Registration deadline October 13.

Direct link to register is below this newsletter or registration can be found on the Business Systems’ Launch Pad!

“...if you think in terms of a year, plant a seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; if in terms of 100 years, teach the people.”

Confucius