Extension Highlights
CCE Schuyler County

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Youth and Family Development

HIDDEN VALLEY 4-H CAMP

2016 Annual Report
Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

Vision Statement

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a national leader in creating positive change on behalf of families and communities through rigorously-tested extension programs. We create measurable change in the following priority areas by aligning local needs with the resources and priorities of the land grant system and its state and federal partners. Priority Areas:

* Agriculture and Food Systems
* 4-H Youth Development/Children, Youth and Families
* Nutrition, Food Safety and Security and Obesity Prevention
* Community and Economic Vitality
PRIORITIES AND TYPICAL OUTCOMES

Agriculture and Food Systems: Support, maintain and develop a NY agriculture industry that is diverse, sustainable and profitable, which produces a safe, reliable healthy and local food supply.

Climate Change: Engage with multidisciplinary researchers, educators and extension faculty to quantify the current climate trends and prepare for future impacts. This plan also includes related topics- biodiversity and water quality/erosion control.

Environment, Natural Resources and Sustainable Energy: Engage in research and extension that uses available resources- including land and organic waste streams for renewable solutions. This plan also supports strategies that promote energy and natural resource conservation.

Nutrition, Food Safety and Security and Obesity Prevention: Support families, youth, communities and the agriculture industry with research and extension connected to childhood obesity prevention; youth, family and community nutrition; food security and food safety.

4-H Youth Development/children, Youth and Families: Enrich the lives of youth and families with research and extension programs. 4-H youth programs focus on life skill development and STEM opportunities. Family programs emphasize human development and social well-being, parenting, economic well-being and quality of home and work environments.

Community and Economic Vitality: Empower individuals and communities to make sound decisions for the future through access to research, data and resources, best practices, university-based resources and community education. This plan also supports extension efforts related to entrepreneurship and workforce development.
Letter from our President:

We have had a remarkable year in 2016, both as a greater society and as county residents. We are all feeling the drive to shake off established patterns and adopt new, dynamic approaches to our challenges.

At the Schuyler County Cooperative Extension office, we are driving our agenda within fiscal realities to achieve an even higher regard in your view. We are first and foremost a service organization aimed at helping you live a better life, through our expert programming that touches so many of you throughout the year. We bring the benefits of the extensive research conducted at Cornell University and many other resources to our county to enable residents to more effectively plan the conduct of their businesses and enrich their personal lives.

Schuyler County Cornell Cooperative Extension has operated beneficially for you for 99 years. Yes! That means we will be celebrating our 100th year with you in 2017. We have plans for several recognition events in 2017 to celebrate together our successful collaboration that makes Schuyler County a great place to live and work. Won’t you join us in celebrating all those years’ accomplishments and the bright future we share.

Watch our website and keep your eye on the mailbox for ways you can continue to support our joint efforts. Your recognition of the importance of Cooperative Extension is what motivates us to produce for you the very best in programming and events.

Thank you all so much for your strong support. It means the world to us.

Paul Bursic
President, Board of Directors
CCESC

It hardly seems possible that our 2016 year is getting ready to conclude. As I reflect on the past year I can certainly share that it has been a very busy one for all of us at Cornell Cooperative Extension Schuyler County (CCESC). We have worked on a newer layout for our Annual Report to reflect what “busy” means in our Extension Association, and hope that you will enjoy the way we are sharing our story with all of you. As you will see when you look over our Annual Report we have chosen to highlight more than one success within each program area along with the inclusion of additional photos to help share the story of Extension work in our local community. We have also explored new fund development opportunities over this past year with our first ever CCESC Plant Sale and the Wines in the Valley event at Hidden Valley 4-H Camp.

Our Board of Director’s and Search Committee has also worked hard this year to identify a new Executive Director for our Association. As I conclude my year as our Interim I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at CCE for their continued dedication to the mission and vision of our organization and to our Board of Director’s for their passion and commitment to CCESC. I would also like to extend a sincere and grateful thank you to the support we receive from the Schuyler County Legislature, to our collaborating county agencies, and most importantly to our community.

Sincerely,

Melissa C. Schroeder
Interim Executive Director
Meet Our Newest Employees

Phil is a native of Eastchester, NY. He attended Sullivan County Community College and then earned a BS in Geology from SUNY College at Buffalo and an MS in Geology from the University of Delaware. He currently the Director of the Division of Energy and Climate for the State of Delaware. He has held a number of senior positions with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and served for several years as Legislative Liaison, Deputy Policy Director and Policy Advisor for Agriculture, Economic Development and Natural Resources for Governor Thomas R. Carper.

Phil is an avid beekeeper, swimmer and amateur woodworker. He enjoys wilderness camping, sailing and home improvement projects and is a proud husband to Judy and father of three grown children.

New Executive Director

Hannah moved to Upstate NY in 2008 and attended Keuka College and Corning Community College where she earned an AS with a focus in Lactation Consulting. She joined us in May 2016 as our 4-H Administrative Assistant and Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Registrar. Previously she has worked at the Ithaca Waldorf School as an Assistant Kindergarten Teacher. In her free time she enjoys playing with her puppy Peaches and practicing yoga.

Meet our 4-H Support staff and Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Registrar
In 2016, Schuyler CCE hosted 30 forestry and agriculture events attended by over 1,200 participants.
CCE Master Forest Owner volunteers visited 35 woodland owners who manage 1,400 acres.
4-H Youth Development
Melissa Schroeder, mcs35@cornell.edu

4-H 2016 Highlights

Tessa Cabezas (at ten years of age), member of Puppy Paws 4-H Dog Club, and her dog Jiggles won Grand Champion in Dog Agility at the New York State Fair. That is a Shining Star "Moment in Time" in our 4-H.

The 4-H FTC team 8767 competed in a local robotics competition, showcasing STEM skills.

A few snapshots of our 4-H Clubs in Action

4-H in Schuyler County offer youth membership to a variety of clubs, positive youth development, STEM opportunities and guidance on healthy living.

Alpaca

We are pleased to have 28 adult volunteers and 2 youth Jr Leaders working with our 4-H members.

Cloverbud

Robotics

Our youngest 4-Hers are learning about agriculture through AG in the Classroom curriculum.

Mission

4-H connects youth to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society.

Values

4-H reflects the principles of positive youth development, experiential learning, and the importance of having fun.

Vision

A world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change.
4-H Youth Development
Melissa Schroeder, mcs35@cornell.edu

Farm to Table

Program Goal:
Connect local youth to local agriculture

Farms visited:
Black Angus Farm
Ort Family Farm
Hawk Meadow Farm
Sunset Creamery
Lakewood Winery
Muddy Fingers

This program was a series of farm visits followed up by a "cooking experience" where we used what was procured from local farms. We managed to procure herbs, vegetables, mushrooms, beef, cheese, and verjooz (a fermented green grape product somewhat like vinegar). We made poutine, pizza, salad, vinaigrette, stew, nachos, and sliders. The youth, and their parents learned about local agriculture. Our 4-Hers were really surprised about how many things are grown or produced in NY. Several of these youth participated in NYS FairProduces in New York Competition sharing their cooking and understanding of "local foods".

Program Staff
Mel Schroeder, 4-H Youth and Family Program Director
Paula Goodrich, 4-H Cloverbuds and 4H Support
Lisa Shrout, 4-H Program Assistance
Hannah Capozzi, 4-H Support Staff

4-H Shooting Sports
Collaborative effort with S.C.O.P.E

Millport Rod and Gun Club
and
Odessa Gun Club

In 2016 we trained eight volunteers and one youth Jr Leader in NYS 4-H Shooting Sports.

In August we successfully ran our 1st Beginning Archery series with Gary Neal as our Lead Coach and Mentor.

Farm to Table
4-H Program funding through NYS AG Society

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The Parent Educator Home Visitor offers intensive parenting education to families referred by Schuyler County Department of Social Services. Parenting education is delivered by parent educator using curricula focusing on child development, discipline techniques and skills to help strengthen parental involvement.

- Families with an open protective case: 8
- Families referred for coached visits: 2
- Families with an open preventive case: 7
- Families providing foster care: 2
- Families refusing parenting education: 2
- Number of families continuing parent education from previous year: 9

3 Coach Visits, 1 Protective Family, 5 Preventive Families
Protective Families~ Families who are currently working with the Children's Service unit of Department of Social Services of Schuyler County while under an investigation of reported child abuse or neglect.

Preventive Families~ Families who are currently working with the Children's Services Unit of Department of Social Services of Schuyler County who are being served with an additional support and supervision after an initial child abuse or neglect investigation.

Coach Visit Families~ Families who are currently working with the Children's Service Unit of Department of Social Services of Schuyler County who are participating in coach visit model, an evidence base model, used during visits with their children, whom are in the foster care system, working towards reunification.

Number of children in families receiving parenting education: 37

Number of children of families continuing parenting education from previous year: 25
Horticulture And Local Foods

238 total workshop participants.
9 Workshops offered, Beekeeping, Taking Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program at Farmers Markets, Rare Fruit Growing, Backyard Fruit Production, Grafting and Growing Chinese Medicinal Herbs.
25 Hours of class instruction provided.
Expert speakers visited our area from Indiana and Hudson Valley.
Favorite quote “Seeing the whole farm and hearing how they manage to do all of the work. It seems much more possible for me now! I also enjoyed hearing things from both of the Reisinger’s, good to get two people’s takes on things.”

Solar Schuyler

171 Participants signed up on our website for 2015-2016 for information related to solar installations.
48 completed Installations and 1 Closed won (signed contract) for a total of 49 new installations that are producing/will produce 495.689 kW of new solar power.
2 Participants who are taking advantage of Renovus’ Community Shared Solar (solar farm) option.
Bonus: Because Apex Solar Power offers Solar Thermal (ST) as an option, we also have a total of 7 ST panels from 4 of our Installations.
CALS/CCE Internship Program

- 360 Intern hours in the garden.
- Heightened the aesthetic quality of the garden with basic management, and addition of new beds and signage.
- Facilitated garden-based activities for community groups including: ARC, Pins Diversion and the Summer Recreation Program. 24 Hours of prep and hands on training to Arc of Schuyler participants in the garden.
- Worked collaboratively with Schuyler CCE staff on projects and advertisements including: a Lost Ladybug Adoption, Healthy garden recipes and Master Gardener recruitment poster.

Master Gardeners

- 3 Master Gardeners finished training in the fall of 2015
- 150 plus volunteer hours in the Cornell Cooperative Extension teaching garden.
- Attended Montour Falls Farmer’s Market with our first ever MG booth.
- Mater Gardeners worked with 10 PINS Diversion youth. Volunteers worked on garden task with the youth. The program highlighted intergenerational gardening.
2016 Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Enrollment:

- 468 Individual Campers
- 712 Camper Weeks
- 437 Campers from 16 New York State Counties
- 28 Campers from 11 U.S. States
- 3 Campers from 2 Countries

Workforce:
- Counselors in Training: 9
- Junior Counselors: 11
- Senior Staff: 31
- Staff Attended as Campers: 12
- International Staff: 5

2016 Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Program Participation:

- Archery: 127
- Fine Arts: 117
- Media & Journalism: 71
- Outdoor Education: 215
- Sciences: 128
- All Sports: 82
Wines in the Valley Fundraiser

On October 8, 2016, Hidden Valley 4-H Camp, in conjunction with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schuyler County, hosted a fundraising event for Camp Scholarships. Wines in the Valley was a new endeavor for the camp and its success has already sparked enthusiasm for a second annual event. Nestled within the Watkins Glen State Park, the Hidden Valley Group Camp was the setting for an enjoyable social night that included wine tasting and pairing with chocolates and cheese, BBQ dinner, a silent auction and an Iron Chef competition. Camp parents, members of both our Board of Directors and Schuyler County Legislature, Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Staff and many other friends of camp gathered together to raise funds for our scholarship fund.

The number of applications for financial assistance from families who wish to send their child or children to camp has increased in the last two years. We want to ensure that any youth who wants to experience camp should have the opportunity. We share with great pride that over $1,800 was raised at our first Wines in the Valley event!
Paul Bursic (President)-Windborne Orchard
Steve Sierigk (Vice President)-Hawk Meadow Farm
Erin Thaete, (Secretary)-Pharmaceutical Sales
Donald Chutas (Treasurer)-Project Manager, Cargill Salt Div.
Walter Adam, Owner of Shannon Brook Farm
Michael Burns, Owner of Cayuta Farm
Charlie Fausold, Cornell University State Specialist, Ex-Officio
Michael Lausell, Legislative Representative
Kelly McCarthy, Cyber Security Safety and Ethics Volunteer Educator
Mark Rondinaro, Part owner and technology manager at Lakewood Vineyards
Karen Stewart, Owner of Seneca Retreats
Melissa C. Schroeder, Interim Executive Director, Ex-Officio

Finance Committee: Mark Rondinaro, Don Chutas and
# CCE Program Committees

## Agriculture Program Committee
- Walter Adam
- Ryan Bossert - Chair
- Lisa Brower
- Brud Holland
- Lorin Hostetler
- Ken Mansfield
- Nicole Rawleigh
- Sherral Richtmyer

## Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Committee
- Rebecca Bowers
- Don Chutas
- Molly Lane
- Autumn Lavine
- Bernadette Raupers
- Tom VanDerZee - Chair

## Youth, Family and Nutrition Program Committee
- Mary Dewalt
- JoAnn Fratarcangelo
- Marcia Kasprzyk
- Deb MacDonald
- Deb Morse
- Megan Scuteri

# CCE Volunteers

- Adam, Walter
- Armstrong, Karen
- Ball, John
- Bauman, Richard
- Beach, Charles
- Bramall, Matthew
- Burns, Michael
- Bursic, Paul
- Butler, Theresa
- Cabezas, Howard
- Cabezas, Margaret
- Carey, Taylor
- Charoenkajonchai, Ken
- Chutas, Donald
- DeWalt, Mary
- Dong, Xiangyi
- Ford, Susan
- Gabriel, Elizabeth
- Gascon, Kathryn
- Giesy, Sarah
- Gurecki, Patty
- Harnas, Robert
- Johnson, Robin
- Karasevicz, Diane
- Kurtz, Gunther
- Lausell, Michael
- Lees, Rebecca
- Mansfield, Kenneth
- Marks, Seth
- McCann, Kayla
- McCarthy, Kelly
- Michael, Gina
- Mistur, Elisabeth
- Neal, Gary
- Neal, Joann
- Patel, Neela
- Peck, Lory
- Peters, Jared
- Rondinaro, Mark
- Scuteri, Daniel
- Sierigk, Steven
- Simon, Katrina
- Sirek, Catherine
- Stewart, Karen
- Thaete, Erin
- Thorsland, Mendy
- Tikofsky, Linda
- VanDeusen, Traci
- Wicker, Brett
- Wicker, Floyd
- Wicker, Jill
- Wicker, Steve
- Williams, Christy
As our Year Draws to a Close, we invite you to join us in honoring the contributions of this year's Friend of Extension Award Recipients:

Robert (Jerry) Harnas

Charlie Haeffner, Odessa File

Richard Bauman

S.C.O.P.E (Shooters Coalition on Political Education)

Roxanne Leyes

4-H Youth Development Recognition

Tessa Cabezas- 4-H Jack Rabbit Award

Mitchell Gascon- 4-H Leadership Mentoring Award
Our Staff

2016 Executive Director
Melissa Schroeder- Interim Executive Director (Thru November)
Phil Cherry- Executive Director (December 5th)

2016 Program Staff
Brett Chedzoy- Sr. Resource Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources
Paula Goodrich- Parenting Educator
Susan Neal- Finance Manager
Roger Ort- Local Foods and Agriculture
Mel Schroeder- Youth and Family Leader
Development Program Leader
Lisa Shrout- 4-H Program Educator
Jenn Sweet- Camp Director, Hidden Valley 4-H Camp

2016 Administrative Staff
Cathy Barnes- Administrative Assistant

Hannah Capozzi- Hidden Valley 4-H Camp Registrar and 4-H Administrative Assistant

2016 Area Specialists and Regional Teams

The Finger Lakes Grape Program
Hans Walter-Peterson- Team Leader

The South Central New York Ag Team
Heather Birdsall- Livestock Specialist
Brett Chedzoy- Forestry, Agroforestry & Natural Resources Specialist
Matthew LeRoux-Agriculture Marketing Specialist
Monika Roth-Ag Economic Development & Policy Specialist

The Finger Lakes Shared Business Network
Bo Freeman- Executive Director Lead
Jennifer Damon- Int. Human Resources Lead
Barb Elias- Finance Lead
Cate Sirek- IT Lead

The current IT lead for the FLX SBN is Cate Sirek, and she is housed in Schuyler County. With overall responsibility for the technology and networking needs of seven county associations, Cate has over 20 years of experience in computer support ranging from end user desktop support to networking and cloud services. She is interested in new ways to bring technology to Extension work and has particular interest in discovering effective training methods to facilitate learning for the differing learning styles of Extension staff.
Mel Schroeder: PRYDE Advisory Team Member
What is PRYDE? The Program for Research on Youth Development and Engagement (PRYDE) promotes positive youth development through innovative research and evidence based approaches. PRYDE is about Making Connections with Researchers, Practitioners, Cornell Students and Youth. PRYDE is part of the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR). https://www.bctr.cornell.edu/pryde-inaugural-explores-the-future-of-youth-development-research/

Co-Chair of Risk and Thriving in Adolescence Program Work Team with Jutta Dotterweich, Act for Youth Center of Excellence.

Mel Schroeder and Jenn Sweet: Member of Diversity and Inclusivity Program Work Team, Team Leaders; Andy Turner, NYS 4-H Program Leader and Eduardo Gonzalez Jr., Statewide Diversity Specialist.

Program Work Teams are groups formed of faculty and staff, extension educators and external stakeholders.

Brett Chedzoy: Arnot Forest, Cornell Interns at Arnot Forest

Paula Goodrich: The Schuyler County Parent Education Home Visitor connects with campus by utilizing the Statewide Data Collection System. The Statewide Data Collection is an online system which allows parent educator to enter data collected form pre- and post-tests at 1st and last parenting classes. Data is then analyzed and results at County, Program and State levels are shared with parent educators and posted to Parenting in Context website each year.

Roger Ort: College of Argiculture and Life Sciences (CALS)- Cornell Cooperative Extension Internship Program
1st Fall Plant Sale and Permaculture Convergence

In 2016 Schuyler CCE approached the Finger Lakes Permaculture Institute about hosting a plant sale in conjunction with their Annual Permaculture Convergence. The event was well attended and another successful collaboration for our community.

*Plant sale attracted four nurseries this year (Cayuga Landscaping, Ort Family Farm, Magic Gardens and Coldwater Pond Nursery.)
• Over the Moon truck attend for our food vendor.
• 104 participants for the Permaculture Convergence.
• Well over 200 people attended the Fall Plant Sale.
• Total vendors sales surpassing $3000.00 and donations equaling $307.61 to Cornell Cooperative Extension Schuyler County.
• 19 speakers presented on Permaculture theory and many other topics.
Financials

CCE Schuyler County 2015 Financial Report

Federal Funds: $10,330 1%
State Funds: $274,637 33%
County funds: $269,949 32%
Other funds: $289,775 34%
TOTAL FUNDS: $844,691 100%
Why are your donations so important??

Our impact is far-reaching and extends to you, your family, your neighbors and your entire community. In many different ways. Here are a few of the many different ways:

* Conduct agriculture research and educational programs to help farms increase profits, reduce costs and to minimize the impact on the environment.

* Encourage people to "buy local," which saves money, leads to healthier diets and lends support to local farms.

* Show people how to grow their own food, how to prepare it and how to preserve it for later use.

* Build positive life skills and provide alternatives to risk-taking behavior in youth.
* Support community initiatives such as Solar Schuyler.

* Educate people about how to save energy and how to reduce their heating and cooling costs.

If you are interested in donating please visit: **http://cceschuyler.org/donate**