

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

EXTENSION COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION & POLICY (ECOP)

Cooperative Extension Centennial Celebration (Extension100years) Report as of 6.20.13

Concept – The 100-year signing anniversary of **Smith-Lever Act**, which officially created the national Cooperative Extension System, will take place in 2014. ECOP has established a Centennial Committee to coordinate and support activities nationwide (www.Extension100Years.net). While celebrating Cooperative Extension's heritage, the primary focus will be on contemporary efforts and launching Cooperative Extension for the next 100 years of educational programming that transforms behavior of individuals, families, youth, farmers, communities, and businesses. The national efforts will be complemented by state and local activities.

Overview of CE100's – At the national level, planning is underway to include advocacy efforts aligned with the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) and the Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference. Together with Cooperative Extension's federal partner, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), events in Washington, DC, will wrap around and occur on the Centennial date of May 8, 2014. Additionally, the Centennial will be commemorated in a series of articles in the *Journal of Extension* throughout the year. The celebration will launch during Galaxy in Pittsburgh, PA, the week of September 16, 2013.

Proposed Schedule – The following national efforts, all occurring in Washington, DC, or surrounding areas, are in the planning stages. Watch for updates providing specific details:

- 1) **CARET-AHS Annual Meeting, March 3-5, 2014** – In addition to a session about the Centennial, a reception on Capitol Hill is tentatively scheduled for early evening, Wednesday, March 5, 2014.
- 2) **PILD, April 7-9, 2014**
- 3) **Convocation & National Awareness Events** – The primary day of celebration will be on **Thursday, May 8, 2014** with wrap-around events during the week.



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ECOP is the representative leadership and governing body of Cooperative Extension, the nationwide transformational education system operating through land-grant universities in partnership with federal, state, and local governments.