

EDUCATORS in ACTION SPOTLIGHT

Who or what originally inspired you to get involved as a volunteer/leader with ACTE?

My inspiration for getting involved with ACTE was **Jo Hampton, my cooperating teacher**. She was serving as the NAVHET (National Association Vocational Home Economics Teachers) President while I was serving as her student teacher. My jobs included everything from creating and typing correspondence and envelopes to organizing various events (the days before email). Jo instilled in me the drive to be involved professionally, to learn and grow within the profession not only for myself but for my students. I have continued to stay involved over the years partly because of the great CTE teachers I have met along the way.

What's one big issue you want to help resolve or improve (in your career, in the field or in ACTE)?

Changing the perception of CTE is one of the biggest issues in our profession. It is a daily task of educating individuals on how high school has changed to better prepare students to go into the workforce as well as pursue additional education. Our young professionals need encouragement to become involved in ACTE and see the many benefits it can provide.

What do you hope to accomplish through volunteering?

I have been in ACTE for 20+ years and when not involved as a volunteer in the organization I felt out of touch with the latest news and trends in CTE and truly missed the friends and mentors I have made.

What do you do when you're not working?

I am **very active and enjoy the outdoors**. You will find me riding my horses, biking or hiking local parks. I also enjoy exploring antique stores and small towns while traveling or working with my hands by gardening, sewing, crafting, and repurposing items.

What are you reading right now?

I just finished *The Given Day* by Dennis Lehane and *Out of the Shoebox* by Yaron Reshef.

What's your favorite travel destination?

My favorite is **Colorado and the mountains**. I spent a summer giving guided horseback rides in the Rockies and many other trips hiking and seeing sites.

What's your favorite quote or motto?

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences." —Eleanor Roosevelt



Charlotte Gray

FACS Educator

Wentzville Holt High School, Wentzville, MO

- + ACTE member since 1998
- + Served as ACTE Family & Consumer Sciences Division Vice President, 2013-2016
- + Attended ACTE's CareerTech VISION every year since 1998
- + Served as a member of the ACTE Nominating Committee & Awards Committee
- + Served as a member of the FACS Policy Committee & NRS Policy Committee
- + ACTE Educator in Action since 2014

