In this issue:

- President news and ACTE: 2
- Awards: 3
- Awards and President Elect: 4
- Years of Membership Awards: 5
- Chief Happiness Officer: 6
- Past President and SDACTE: 7

---

**Stipends Available!!**

The Board Highly Encourages you to Attend the following events!!!

- National Policy Seminar, March, Washington DC
- Region V, April, Jackson Hole, WY

Visit the [SDACTE Website](#) for Applications

---

Over 275 educators attended the 2011 Conference this past August. This year’s conference included Keynote Speakers from Ericka Olver and Terry Nebelsick, over 20 breakout sessions, Awards banquets, a trade show, partnerships with our state’s post-secondary institutions, and much more. This issue of the newsletter is a celebration of our conference, our award winners and our past year of success. Look inside at our conference 2011 wrap-up.
My goodness we are in our third full week of school already, and I thought the summer went fast. It is the time of year when we are all filled with optimism and high expectations for ourselves and our students. The challenge often becomes to maintain these levels throughout the school year to make it successful for you, your students and your program.

So how do we meet these challenges? First and foremost to any successful endeavor I feel it is so important to set goals. Each year I do this as I set goals for what I hope each class will be able to achieve, goals for my FFA chapter, and professional goals. The professional goals you set are the ones that can have the longest and most important impact on your career whether it is to begin classes to attaining a Masters Degree or becoming more involved in your professional organizations at the local, district, state and even national level.

One of my goals this year is to become more involved on the National level for my division of CTE. I have always watched and admired people like Myron Sonne and Coleen Keffeler, and the roles they have played in CTE through the years. It is because of this that I decided to run for Region III Vice-President in NAAE. I would hope that maybe this year you have set goals also in becoming more involved in our organization and promoting it in your schools and community. This leads to our role in advocacy! If we develop strong programs at home and have our community support it is so much easier for us to get community members to make the contacts for us and for OUR programs. You have to make advocacy personal for people for them to really be passionate and care. So become involved, promote your program and spread the word about how important CTE programs are to South Dakota, but most of all make it worthwhile for you and your students so that this year will be a huge success.
Those who were honored at the awards banquet included Bridget Twedt (top row left), the agriculture education teacher from Centerville, SD for Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher; Brigitte Brucklacher (top row right), the family and consumer sciences teacher from Haakon County School (Philip, SD) for Outstanding Teacher in Community Service; Joline Dunbar (2nd row left), the family and consumer sciences teacher from Brookings High School for Teacher of the Year; Marlys Hauck-Fenner (2nd row right) recently retired family and consumer sciences teacher from Freeman, SD for Outstanding Service Award; Lynette Molstad Gorder (3rd row left), the business and computer information professor at Dakota State University for Friend of South Dakota Career and Technical Education; and Coleen Keffeler (3rd row right), the career and technical coordinator at Sturgis Brown High School for Lifetime Achievement.
Technology Prize – OCCTE Interns Bailey Schilder and Hannah John-son present Mary Remund from Elkton (center) with an iPod at the closing session of summer conference. Conference participants had an opportunity to win technology prizes for sharing on-line evaluations in regard to the conference.

Basket Bonanza – Linda Reinbold, Health Science Teacher at Northwest Area Schools, holds one of the baskets donated by Nora Kohlenberg and other representa-tives of the OCCTE Office. Reinbold was one of the lucky win-ners in the Basket Bonanza. The Bonanza was a new fund raiser conceived by the SDACTE Board of Directors to help pay for the gifts given for qualifying years of membership.

2010-11 SDACTE President Annika Russell (3rd from right) congratulates scholarship recipients Nicholas Mueller, Garretson, SD; David Smith, Kimball, SD; and Becky Lyn Kopfmann, Wessington Springs, SD. Each received a $500 scholarship. Mueller will be attending school at SDSU, Smith at LATI, and Kopfmann at SDSU. Not pic-tured: Andrew Hartog from Sioux Falls.

Career and Technical Education has shaped the lives of my students since 1973 when I started teaching at the Lake Area Multi-District in Watertown. I’ve had the pleasure of working with young people in their formative years of high school who are interested in healthcare careers by providing them with experiences that are authentic. As a member of SDVA and now SDACTE, I’ve served on the board of directors several times as Health Occupations division president. It will be an exciting chal-lenge to serve as your President. As we approach our 40th year as an organization, I would encourage all Career and Technical Educators to reflect on past successes and move forward to develop and im-plement new ways to inspire CTE students.
Starting with this year's Monday Awards Banquet, the SDACTE Board of Directors will recognize those members with years of membership awards. These awards will be given for 5-year increments beginning with year 5, then 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and when one retires. This year we will present awards to everyone who has passed one of these milestones, but only one per member. So if a person has 27 years of membership he/she would receive the 25-year award. In future years it will fall on the person's actual membership year. Again, keep in mind it is years of membership to SDACTE/ACTE, not years taught.

### 25 Years
- Joline Dunbar
- Jerome Janisch
- Dale Bartels
- Cindy Brace
- Randy Doescher
- Greg Janisch
- Lori Wollman
- Lynn Brace
- Janet Hallberg
- Linda Petersen
- Dianne Rider
- Terry Rieckman
- Brigette Brucklacher
- Darla Dekraii
- Gary Griessie
- Cory Grimsrud
- Coleen Keffeler
- Wesley Steiner

### 30 Years
- Michel Brink
- Jean Clarke
- Doug Hauk
- Chris Larsen
- Roger DeRouchey
- Darold Hehn
- Bill Lehman
- Nancy Weischedel
- Joan Anderson
- Mary Kay Drees
- Natalie Iverson
- Ed Mueller
- Suzanne Skinner
- Debora Van Hove
- Todd Marks
- Linda Schroeder
- Craig Shryock
- Beverly Rieck
- Julie Bell
- James Chilson
- Deb DeBates
- Charlotte Mohling
- Mary Jo Parker

### 35 Years
- Calvin Pietz
- Phyllis Guthmiller
- Sharry Knock
- Richard Hetland
- Lon Moeller
- Roger Carlson
- Marlys Hauck-Fenner
Chief Happiness Officers Eat P.E.A.S.!
by Erika Oliver, MPA

If you were able to attend the South Dakota ACTE annual conference you learned firsthand that happiness is not a luxury but a necessity in a complicated, dynamic, change-filled world. In order for our full brains to function—logic, intuition, creativity—we must be in our “happy” place. In negativity or stress, our sympathetic nervous system—stress response—shuts down our brains to put our bodies in fight or flight readiness. In negativity, we are not effective teachers and students are not receptive learners. What’s the solution? Glad you asked! Become your own Chief Happiness Officer (CHO).

CHO’s have four primary responsibilities: 1) Position—choose a positive mental position, 2) Energy—maintain a positive energy balance, 3) Assumptions—make outrageously positive assumptions when you don’t have all the information, and 4) Start with 3 Good Things—identify the positive—what works—before solving problems or identifying defects. In this and the next three issues you will be receiving tips on how to eat your P.E.A.S. to be the best CHO!

Give me a “P”!
P is for position. CHO’s choose to have a positive mental position. What if this is not your natural state (I’m a recovering pessimist so it isn’t my natural position) or it’s a particularly tough time, day, or moment? To move your mental position, move your physical position. When we change our bodies we can change our minds. Here are some ideas to change your physical position to get to your mental “happy” place:

1. Brush your teeth with your non-dominant hand
2. Go the opposite way through the grocery store
3. Drive a different car to work, school, or to run errands
4. Get up—literally—on the wrong side of the bed
5. Hold a meeting while sitting on the floor
6. Reorder your classroom routine
7. Sit in a different chair at home
8. Eat with chop sticks (if you already do that, switch to a fork)
9. Read the newspaper in the morning if you usually read it in the evening

Switch desks/rooms with someone at work—even for an hour

Being a Chief Happiness Officer is not unproductive or goofy. In fact, a good CHO is the most productive and focused of the bunch because he/she uses the power of positive to leverage happiness for more good. Happiness and fun are not a means of escaping responsibility and life but a means of expressing one’s best self and helping the world be a better place. Your happiness leadership is needed no matter what your position at work or home. Start by choosing your best mental position. Help yourself and others find their "happy" by taking on the title of Chief Happiness Officer! Erika Oliver, MPA, is a communication coach, business consultant, and author of the award-winning Three Good Things: Happiness Every Day, No Matter What!, Three Good Things: A Coloring Book for Everyone! and Happy Crap: The Power of Positive Assumptions. A recovering pessimist, Oliver is now a Positive Approach Coach who helps people, teams, and organizations find their "happy." She uses the principles of detailed in her books to help people and organizations choose a positive approach. Learn more at www.erikaoliver.com.

Nebelsick Shares Insights with CTE teachers

By Terry Rieckman

The last speaker of our conference Terry Nebelsick shared his views on how to be a difference maker in the lives of the students we teach. Using examples from his past in dealing with student, staff and administrative issues he was able to incorporate humor with his real life experiences. Using this he motivated the audience into exploring the lives they touch each and every day. One challenge he gave us all was to examine whose Board of Directors we were on, and who was on our Board of Directors and why. Following his advice we can change the lives of one student at a time.
Thank Your for A Great Year!
Annika Russell—Past President

As we start a new year with SDACTE, I have been reflecting on my year as president. The board started the year with our yearly retreat, where we set three specific goals for the year. I’m happy to say that we have accomplished all three goals! This could not have been completed without hard work and dedication from each board member. Together we were able to continue sharing the Perkins/CTE Data with our communities and school leaders; continue the process of revising our committees and their missions so that they run as smoothly and efficiently as possible; and worked at making SDACTE become a greater presence in the state.

As President, I represented South Dakota as the national convention, National Policy Seminar, and Region V conference along with participating in conference calls and national taskforce. Through these experiences, I was able to share all the good things we have going on in South Dakota along with learning what other states and associations are doing. We need to realize that when it comes to CTE, South Dakota is ahead of many other states and we need to be proud of what we do.

My year as President ended with the 2011 Summer Conference in Pierre during August. A highlight of the conference was the recognition of members for years of membership. This is something the board felt very strong about and worked to make possible. We are thankful for all of the dedicated members and wanted to show our appreciation. From the responses, members appreciated being recognized!! I’m proud to have been a part of a board that felt so strong about this ongoing recognition.

I would like to personally thank all the board members for their time and efforts this past year! Thank you for serving this past year and working hard to move our association ahead. We couldn't have done it without you!!