

## Meet the Board

*Kate Shumaker (OH), Secretary*

Hello to my NEAFCS extended family! One of the things I love about NEAFCS is the connections we create. Yes, we can be professional and call it networking, but it is really creating a connection with another person. Someone you can email or call to ask a question, share a resource, and maybe become lifelong friends.

My Extension career began because I created a connection with a preceptor I had during my dietetic internship. That internship led to my first job as an FCS Program Assistant and then into an FCS Educator position over 22 years ago. Since 2000 I have served as the FCS Educator in Holmes County, Ohio, the heart of Amish country. My favorite programs to teach are cooking classes, food preservation and food safety.

With all that focus on food, I can easily spend an hour or two browsing in a grocery store because there are so many different and interesting products available. Some just make you want to ask, "Who thought of this?" That said, I am also very anti-onion and can't handle spicy foods.

I look forward to this new adventure as your NEAFCS Secretary. Please let me know what you would like to see in the NEAFCS Network newsletter. My goal is to make this something useful that you want to read. REach out to me with comments or suggestions at [shumaker.68@osu.edu](mailto:shumaker.68@osu.edu) or 330-600-6039.

Wishing you and your families a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season.

