

## **Southwest Ohio (SWOEFFA) Chapter**

The mission of SWOEFFA is to increase awareness, production, and consumption of locally grown products through public education and farmer/consumer relationships

SWOEFFA members are producers, consumers, students, and/or educators who are also OEFFA members. Non-OEFFA community individuals are invited to join our meetings as appropriate.

SWOEFFA will continue bimonthly meetings, in person when possible and via zoom with assistance from OEFFA staff if needed. Topics, tours, and guest speakers will focus on advancing SWOEFFA's mission and assisting members in their work.

### **Officers:**

**Facilitator:** Cori Yaeger, 2895 Wilmington Road, Lebanon, OH 45036, [iroc1949@icloud.com](mailto:iroc1949@icloud.com), (513) 706-9323

**President:** Cori Yaeger, [iroc1949@icloud.com](mailto:iroc1949@icloud.com)

**Vice President:** Steve Edwards, [st55Edwards@gmail.com](mailto:st55Edwards@gmail.com)

**Steering Committee:** Caren Welborne, [cwelborne@yahoo.com](mailto:cwelborne@yahoo.com); Steve Edwards, [st55Edwards@gmail.com](mailto:st55Edwards@gmail.com); Cori Yaeger, [iroc1949@icloud.com](mailto:iroc1949@icloud.com)

### **Chapter History**

SWOEFFA has existed since the original five state regions were changed to a chapter system. Local members have done many activities over the years, including mini-conferences, farm tours, movie showings, booths, lectures, grower supply joint purchasing, and potluck meetings. Chapter activity has varied over the years and has partly depended on the time and energy availability of many volunteers. Facilitators have included Eric Pawlowski, Melinda O'Briant, Sandra Murphy, Charlie Gonzalez, and Sally Godschalk. Core group planners have included Mary Lu Lageman, David Rosenberg, Debra Jordan, Suellyn Shupe, Jim Lowenburg, Karen Mandell, Matt Tomaszewski, Bonnie Mitsui, Mary Ida Compton, Amy Casper, Anne Welling, and Steve Edwards.

We re-organized in 2020, starting with a meetup gathering at the annual OEFFA conference in February. We planned to have quarterly in-person meetings, but with the Coronavirus shutdowns, we switched to Zoom meetings in May 2020. In 2020 and 2021, we had mostly Zoom meetings, with a few indoor gatherings (our November Harvest Feast in 2021). Since Covid vaccines and boosters became available, and most of our members were protected, we began more in-person gatherings with several farm tours, a documentary viewing, and two potlucks. We will continue to meet in person when possible, and via Zoom with the help of OEFFA staff when necessary. Our current schedule calls for meetings every other month.

Updated 12.8.2022