

2011 Conservation Educator of the Year

Marsha Clere began her teaching career in 2nd grade at Starr Elementary in Oregon, OH and continued in that position for 40 years. After receiving her degree from BGSU and later her Masters degree from University of Toledo, she was privileged to teach 2 Starr generations of second graders in several families. She liked bringing to her classroom experts in various fields to share their knowledge on trees, animal adaptations, composting, and pollution (Jamie Kochensparger); rocks and minerals (Chester King); zoo animals (Kitty and Larry Meyers); engineering bridge construction (Larry Gillen); paper making (Melinda Lesniewicz-her former 2nd grade student); dental health (Joanne Quinlan); identifying and taking care of trees (Don Charlton); deer adaptations (Chuck Clark); Real Eyes Program (Dr. Vicky Louis); knot making and star gazing (Bob Russ), bicycle and going to school safety (Gina Veres), Halloween and bicycle safety (Officers Coughlin, Poddany, and Shaw), bus safety (Oregon bus drivers), bird identification and nesting (Wanda Rice), and the list goes on.



Marsha initiated the Starr Recycling program with Keep Toledo Lucas County Beautiful, which spread to other Oregon schools. She is a member and past president of Delta Kappa Gamma and Beta Sigma Phi. She was a member of Pi Lambda Theta and an OCFT building rep and was awarded the OCFT President's Award. Marsha worked with over 42 student teachers and participants from the University of Toledo, Bowling Green State University, and Lourdes College. Marsha became one of 5 Oregon teachers with the distinction of National Board Certification.

Her family is very special to her. She has been married to Steve for 41 years and has a son Mike and granddaughter Alexis. She gets much support from her mom, Gerry Martin Conley, her sister, Sandy Bihn and her family, and many friends.