

THE LAMPLIGHT

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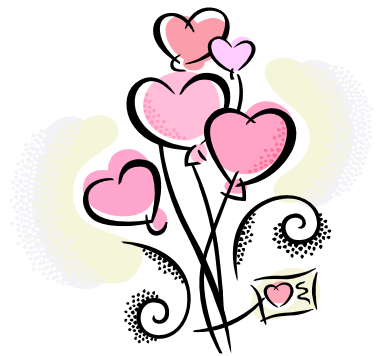
President's Message

by Susan Conover

February 2009

It seems as though 2009 has passed by extraordinarily fast. Fast or not we have experienced some major events and changes in technology. We welcomed a new president, struggled with a recession, saw H1N1 was a major health scare and fear, we "lost" some superstars, we can find our friends, family, and organizations on facebook and twitter and even more reality shows were added to our television viewing options.

OAFCS worked on many projects including, but certainly not limited to, celebrating the AAFCS Centennial, being aware of and when needed, taking action on legislative issues affecting our profession, recruiting and retaining members, offering an annual conference in Westlake, promoting Family and Consumer Sciences at the Ohio State Fair and working with AAFCS on planning for the AAFCS 101st Annual Conference and Expo, *New Century for FCS: New Challenges, New Solutions* to be held in Cleveland, June 24 – 26, 2010. Not a wonder that we are tired at the end of the day!



Now is not the time to rest though as we have much to do as we enter the second century of our profession. For the next few months we will continue not only to focus on OAFCS initiatives, but also will continue to be busy preparing to host and being part of the AAFCS 101st in Cleveland. While the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) has done a lot, there is a lot to be done. Yes, you can help! How? Register for and attend the conference, see the AAFCS web page for details on getting program by mail or email. Learn more about our keynote speakers: **Dr. Jeanne M. Hogarth**, Program Manager, Federal Reserve Board, **Mr. Robert Mohelnitzky**, President Emeritus, Special Assistant to the President, Feeding America and **Dr. Michael Roizen**, Chief Wellness Officer, The Cleveland Clinic. And, please volunteer to help the LAC carry out its responsibilities throughout the conference.

As for OAFCS business, please save the date of April 13, 2010 for our first web based annual conference. There will be more details on this exciting opportunity in January. We will also continue to work on other OAFCS priorities and keep you posted on our progress.

Whatever the future, you can and do make a difference to OAFCS! A quote I like, especially at this time of year -- "Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look at what they can do when they stick together." As humans we may not be nature's most "fragile things," but what we can do when we stick together is often nothing less than amazing!



- Registration is open! **Be sure your affiliate and community members register for the Annual Conference & Expo by April 15, 2010**, at the Early-Bird rate (\$365 for full professional/Emeritus member registration, \$99 for full student registration). Visit www.aafcs.org/meetings/10/reg.html for more information.
- If you signed up to receive the **Preliminary Program booklet** by email, it will be sent this week. If you signed up for a printed copy by mail, it will be mailed in mid-February. To take a look now, visit www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/prelim_prog_10.pdf.
- Apply to participate in “**Research to Practice**” **Rounds**, 20- to 25-minute presentations featuring current research, award-winning teaching methods, career mentoring, and entrepreneurial ideas and experience. Applications are due **February 24, 2010**. Visit www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/RTP_10.doc to download the application.
- If you are an educator, apply to participate in the **Community of ESAE Curriculum Showcase**, where educators display curricula, videos, software, student work, pamphlets, posters, books, samples, and marketing items. Applications are due **March 1, 2010**. Visit www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/ESAE_CFP_10.doc to download the application.
- Undergraduate students are encouraged to apply to participate in the **Higher Education Unit Undergraduate Student Research Poster Session**. Applications are due **March 1, 2010**. Visit www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/HEU_CFP_10.doc to download the application.
- Come a day early and take an **educational excursion** on June 23! To avoid paying a late fee and increase your chances of getting your first choice, register by **April 15, 2010**. Download the registration form at www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/tour_reg_2010.doc.
- Star in your own video and submit it for a chance to win a conference registration or other valuable prizes! The **AAFCS “Cleveland Rocks” Video Contest** will be accepting entries until **February 25, 2010**. For contest details, visit www.aafcs.org/meetings/10/contest.html.
- The AAFCS Student Unit is partnering with Feeding America and the Cleveland Food Bank to provide can openers for Cleveland’s kids. **Quality, hand-held can openers will be collected by the Student Unit in Cleveland** at the Annual Conference this June. If you're unable to join us in Cleveland, send a can opener with a colleague!
- The Community of Partners in Home and Community is requesting applications for the **Betsy Norum subsidy**, a \$500 stipend for a college junior who is a student member of AAFCS, has not attended an Annual Conference before, and would like to go to the AAFCS 101st Annual Conference & Expo. Encourage interested student members to download the form at www.aafcs.org/students/res/BetsyNorumStipend.doc and apply by **March 15, 2010!**

With this publicity notice, we are also providing you with a one-page fact sheet (www.aafcs.org/res/10_AC/fast_facts_10.doc) you can share with members and colleagues at meetings and in your communications. Please check www.aafcs.org often, read each issue of *The FACS*, and watch [Twitter](#) and our [blog](#) for Annual Conference updates.

Call to Action

Dear AAFCS Colleagues,

As professionals who work with individuals, families, and communities, we often face times when our knowledge, skills, and passion can be used to help prevent or respond to a crisis. Just as we have been “Taking It to the Streets” in regard to educating the public about preventing and dealing with the outbreak of H1N1, we must now use our skills in any way we can to assist those affected by the devastation in Haiti.

- Many nations and organizations have already stepped up to help in the recovery and relief efforts. The US government’s response is being led by Agency for International Development Administrator Rajiv Shah. The effort also includes the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and State. Check related websites for the status and ways you can help. Please be aware that US officials are concerned about whether Haiti’s infrastructure can handle what could be sent because Haiti’s airport and seaport sustained substantial damage.

Here are some other suggestions for action:

- Check websites, newspapers, and your own local organizations to see where your skills and/or items you may plan to collect are needed. The Red Cross is a good place to start.
- Help local people who are trying to locate family members or have lost a loved one there. There are many US Embassy personnel, their families, and US citizens who live and work in Haiti and many who have ties to Haiti. Those who are trying to locate family members are told to call the State Department at 888-407-4747.
- Conduct drives to collect items that agencies need, hold informative workshops, and have students engage in service learning activities, but be very cautious about what you collect and for whom. Sometimes it is more beneficial and cost-effective to conduct fundraisers for organizations.
- When making donations, be sure the organization is reputable and be especially careful about making contributions online. The Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org), www.give.org, www.guidestar.org, and www.charitynavigator.org can help you when researching a charity.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by this devastation. Please show your leadership by assisting those in need and using your family and consumer sciences skills. Do whatever you can, and please keep us posted at pr@aafcs.org. Don't keep your good deeds a secret!

With warm regards,

Marilyn R. Swierk, CFCS
AAFCS President

You are receiving this important message from the AAFCS president because you are an AAFCS member.

Scholarship Information

The scholarship chair would like to remind all students that OAFCS scholarship applications are due by January 31, 2010. Please go to the OAFCS website and download the information and form if you are interested in a scholarship for the 09/10 school year. Don't wait until the last minute, because some of the materials you need to submit might take a week or two to obtain (like a transcript, membership card, and/or faculty recommendation).

Donna Green
Extension Educator
Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)
OSU Extension, Erie County

DID YOU KNOW?

At this point in time, donations from members to the OAFCS Centennial Scholarship Fund reached more than one third of the final goal. The final goal is \$10,000 and donations total more than \$4000.

As part of our celebration, the OAFCS Centennial Committee created an opportunity for members and friends to continue our heritage and help build a strong future. This scholarship is intended for students seeking a undergraduate degree in Family and Consumer Sciences in an Ohio college or university. Many of our current members, past and current board members, past presidents and others made contributions.

Please consider a donation to the OAFCS Centennial Scholarship Fund. Send your check to Sharon Turini-Kent, Counselor, 5803 Cambridge Circle, Sandusky, OH 44870-9792. Your check should be payable to OAFCS Centennial Scholarship Fund.

Jenny Schroeder, Chair, OAFCS Centennial Committee (phone 614-846-4940 or email jenways@aol.com)

HISTORY OF THE DISTRICTS A, B, C, D

The planning for OHEA Districts began in 1971 and the OHEA Spring issue of the newsletter included the following information:

A working report on "districting" was presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting March 18, 1972 by President-Elect, Mabel Sarbaugh. A task force has worked on the development of a districting plan, in an effort to bring the program of the Ohio Home Economics Association closer to the membership. It was announced at the Annual Meeting in 1971 that

definite plans would be made to activate districting to provide more impetus for the Ohio Home Economics Association at the local level.

The By-Laws of the Ohio Home Economics Association provides the opportunity for districting through Article X. There were many considerations given to the concept of districting. One of the first questions raised was "How to and how many districts." Included in these considerations were schools offering degrees in home economics in the state, transportation patterns, current membership in OHEA, potential membership for OHEA, and other district patterns already established such as the Vocational Home Economics Districts, Congressional Districts, and Cooperative Extension Districts. After studying these possibilities in detail, it was determined that the most functional and manageable plan would be provision for four districts.

Guidelines that would assist in having effective district home economics associations will be provided. The program of work of each district will be based on the state and national association, with a level of flexibility provided to handle those things which seem to be identified with a geographic area in the state. A handbook of operation would assist the officers and the district board in functioning. The president of the district board will serve on the state board.

The task force recommended a minimum of two meetings per year for the district. These meetings would be open to non-members, as the state meeting is:

- The nominating committee for the state organization would be made up of one member per district.
- Delegates to the American Home Economics Association could be chosen on a more equal basis with names submitted by each district being selected to serve as a delegate.
- The Districts were originally designated as named I, II, III, and IV and within a short time this was changed to A, B, C, D and the letter designation is the same today.

From the Editor:

Please send articles for the next MARCH NEWSLETTER, by February 28th. The newsletter will be packed with loads of information about the upcoming OAFCS State Conference and the Annual AAFCS Conference in Cleveland. Please send all information to: acarlton@mayfieldschools.org.

Thanks,
Toni Carlton