



National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Wisconsin Affiliate

Communiqué

November 17, 2006

President's Letter
Kathy Metzenbauer

Dear WEAFCFS Members:

NEAFCS National Meeting:

Congratulations to our Wisconsin colleagues who received recognition at the annual session in Denver. We can be proud of the hard work done in Wisconsin! Please take time as you writing your end of the year reports, doing your Plan of Work for 2007, to start the application for an award for the annual session in 2007. With the close proximity of this session, it would be even better if Wisconsin associates also took precedence in receiving awards.

Committees:

All committees have been meeting and working hard to accomplish their goals. Keep up the great work. I know it is difficult to put one more task on our 'to do' list, but if everyone does one small task, it can accomplish a huge goal.

Another special thank you to Jenny Wehmeier. She has been working with our technical support in Madison on a new layout for our Web Site – it is awesome!

JCEP:

Put the 2007 JCEP conference in your new calendar. It will be held Tuesday, April 17 through Thursday, April 19 at the Bridgewood Resort and Hotel Conference Center in Neenah. The conference planning committee is working hard to make this a wonderful event. If you have any suggestions or would be willing to help, please contact me.

Conclusion:

As we approach this holiday season, I wish all of you the Best of the Season. Take time out from your hectic schedules to enjoy this with family and friends. Do something special for yourself – take a day off to shop, relax, and rejuvenate.

Sincerely,

Kathy Metzenbauer

GREAT TIME IN DENVER
By Marma McIntee, Past President

We had a large delegation attend the NEAFCS conference in Denver. It was a great time. The location was great, conference speakers and exhibits were tremendous and our members honored our awardees.

Just a little PR for 2007—it will be a great opportunity to attend NEAFCS in 2007 as it is right in our backyard. Not only will the speakers and presentation be good, they will be great because I know that we will have MANY from Wisconsin to choose from.

Those attend the 2006 Denver Conference were:

Nancy Books
Laurie Boyce
Jennifer Caravella
Karen Dickrell
Angie Flickinger
Marilyn Herman
Jane Jensen
Karen Joos
Chris Kniep
Marilyn Kooiker

Jean LeFebvre (husband)
Marma McIntee
Phyllis Northway and husband
Mary Novak
Linda Olson
Gail Peavey
Donna Peterson
Ruth Schriefer (husband & son)
Jenny Wehmeier
Lori Zeirl



Joan Le Febvre, 1st Place Communications (Television) Award, Karen Joos, Continued Excellence Award
Ruth Schriefer, Distinguished Service Award



St. Paul NEAFCS Conference Update

Keep your red shoes ready for the September 17-19, 2007 NEAFCS Bridging Scholarship & Entrepreneurship Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota. Our thanks to many WEAFCs members serving on sub-committees that continue to fine-tune the program and offerings when we co-host this event.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind:

In late January, Association members from Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin will receive an e-mail offering advance hotel reservation for the Conference Hotel. The goal is to block rooms on one or two floors for our members.

A call for seminar presentations, poster sessions, and panel discussions will be out shortly after the first of the year with a mid-March or April 1 deadline for any and all members interested in sharing your scholarly work. This will also be a good year to highlight your work with an application or two for state, regional, and national awards. If you are receiving an award, sharing your professional expertise, or working on a National program team or conference committee, please complete a request to your District Director to secure state funding to defray some of your costs.

We still have chocolate carmelcorn, white chocolate almond popcorn, or white chocolate cranberry popcorn available for sale at \$4.00 a box. Popcorn is strategically placed with Gail Peavey, Donna Peterson, or Marilyn Herman if you need to be resupplied. Send all money/checks to Marilyn Herman or Mary Fran Lepeska, WEAFCs Treasurer. Checks need to be made out to "2007 NEAFCS Conference." A supply of popcorn will be available at the January Family Living Program Conference if it is not completely sold out by then. The sale of popcorn, plus JCEP Silent Auction proceeds should help us get to our state goal of \$4000 to cover some of our host costs.

If you have any questions please contact Marilyn Herman, WEAFCs's Conference Planning Team

2007 Dues Reminder

Membership application forms were e-mailed out earlier this month to current and prospective members. Membership dues remain at \$100 with \$60 going to NEAFCS and \$40 staying with the WEAFCs organization. Please mail your forms and payment to Mary Fran Lepeska, 121 W. Main St., Port Washington, WI 54074 by January 5th, 2007. If there will be a delay in getting payment to me, let me know that either by e-mail, mary.lepeska@ces.uwex.edu or call 262-284-8291. Thank you!

Awards & Recognition Committee

Annette Larie, Chair

Now is the time to start turning your achievements into WEAFCFS or NEAFCS award applications. The awards committee is looking forward to reviewing your submissions. NEAFCS award categories are Fellowships, Professional Development, Program, Communications, and Public Relations. Professional Development and Program award categories are available for WEAFCFS recognition. WEAFCFS strongly encourages Special Recognition awards, which are designed to recognize the significant accomplishments of para-professionals, volunteers and friends of extension.

All applications, criteria and details for state awards can be found on the WEAFCFS website <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/award.html> . National award details are on the NEAFCS website <http://www.neafcs.org/awards.asp>. As well there is a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the national website at <http://www.neafcs.org/eneafcs/enews.asp?P=864>.

The awards committee looks forward to receiving your applications. The deadline for all award applications, with the exception of the First-Timers grant for attendance at NEAFCS, is February 10, 2007. Please read application criteria thoroughly. Send all completed applications to: Annette Larie, WEAFCFS Awards and Recognition Chair 625 E. Cty Road Y Oshkosh WI 54901.

Congratulations to the following WEAFCFS members who received recognition from NEAFCS at the October Reaching New Heights Conference held in Denver:

National Winners

Professional Development Awards

Distinguished Service Ruth Schriefer
Continued Excellence Karen Joos

Communication Awards

Television Joan LeFebvre

Central Region Winners

Program Award

Program Excellence /Through Research Jennifer Caravella
Central region winner

Communications Awards

Educational Curriculum Diane Weber (Team)
2nd place Central region Karen Hintz

Television Joan LeFebvre
1st place Central region

Television Jenny Wehmeier (Team)
2nd place Central region Kathleen Eisenmann
Daniel McCrea

WAY TO GO WISCONSIN!

WEAFCS Professional Development Committee Report

Pam Peterson, Chair of WEAFCs Professional Development Committee

Sharing scholarly work, identifying best practice, and evidence-based programs is an effective way to enhance our professional development and improve our own programming. A search of the Planning and Results System is a great way to check out what programs your colleagues are successfully offering in their communities. There are, however, some tricks to doing successful searches according to Rick Mills, IS Resources Support Tech.

Rick suggests that when you visit the website, <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/techservices/prs> select a team page first to narrow your search rather than using the search feature from the home or front page. The results you get depend on the search data you enter so make sure your entry is spelled correctly. You might also want to try entering several options. For example, searches on “pie plate, Grandma’s pie plate” and “Grandma’s yellow pie plate” will each yield different results. It might be helpful to print the screen after each individual search by hitting “Ctrl p” to print the entire page so you can compare the results from each search. For best results, remember to choose a year and check all three boxes – Search Impact Indicator Results, Search Impact Statements, Search Success Stories. You can right click on your result to select text, copy and paste it to a word document. You can use a topic or theme for your search and can also find out who is doing work in a specific area. If you are not finding results in a content area, you can also look at individual reports by a person/name. Remember to highlight the year you want to search because the drop down always defaults to the current year.

If you would like more details, contact Rick at (608) 263-4985 or rick.mills@ces.uwex.edu for a tip sheet or with additional questions. Rick will also be presenting a Wisline on the Planning and Results System in December. Watch for an email with details.

The Professional Development Committee wants to include book reviews regularly in the Communiqué. If you’ve read something recently that you got excited about and think it might be a great resource for your colleagues, please send me a paragraph or two which can be included in the Communiqué.

Book Review (Readers Corner)

Stopping at Every Lemonade Stand; How to Create a Culture that Cares for Kids, by James Vollbracht provides a blueprint for transforming our culture into healthier communities that support and protect our kids. Vollbracht provides plenty of ideas based on research and common sense about how to strengthen the six overlapping circles of community – individuals, families, neighborhoods, community, business and government and older adults to create a more child and youth friendly environment. The book is easy-reading, filled with humor and ideas that will make you wonder “Why didn’t I think of that?!” An excerpt from the introduction:

As I got out of my car, I walked slowly toward the lemonade stand, savoring the simplicity of the moment. I had one choice: lemonade. I realized that regardless of what these kids were selling, I was buying. “I’ll take four cups,” I said, getting a little carried away. Their faces lit up and they rushed to fill my order. One poured. One wiped up a small spill. One jiggled the change box. Another pulled out a plastic bucket full of ice cubes that was hidden under the table. I watched, intrigued, as a dirty hand plopped ice cubes of

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assorted sizes into my four cups! “Hmm,” I mused, “organic lemonade.”

Stopping at Every Lemonade Stand is available from the POCAN (Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) library located in the UW-Extension Building in Madison. The POCAN library is a wonderful resource for a variety of books and videos covering a wide range of topics. For more information about the library, contact Pence Revington at (608) 262- 9962 or pence.revington@ces.uwex.edu.

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities:

The 2007 **JCEP** Conference will be at the Bridgewood Resort Hotel and Conference Center in Neenah April 17 -19, 2007.

PILD Conference will be held April 23 - 25, 2007 in Washington, DC. The anticipated travel dates will be April 21, returning early evening on April 25, 2007.

The 2007 **Children, Youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR) Conference** will be held May 2-4 at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. Pre-conference will be on May 1, 2007.

The **NEAFCS** 2007 Annual Conference is scheduled for September 17 – 20 at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

WEAFCS Public Policy Education Committee

Marilyn Kooiker, Co-Chair

PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

The WEAFCs Public Policy Education Committee is looking for new members. We are inviting all WEAFCs members to please consider joining our committee. This past year we have sponsored a JCEP panel discussion on “How to Talk so Legislators will Listen” which was well attended. Jennifer Garner spoke to our committee at our November Wisline meeting and brought us up to date on state issues facing family living educators.

Currently our committee is focusing on the importance of public policy within the family living program area.

Mission: The Public Policy Education Committee shall initiate and carry out a program designed to:

- Educate WEAFCs members about their role and responsibilities in public policy issues.
- Encourage members to keep informed of public policy issues.
- Keep members informed of pending legislation.
- Provide expert witness for informational purposes only on appropriate public policy issues on behalf of WEAFCs.
- Promote the Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference.

Our Committee sponsors a representative to attend the PILD conference in Washington, DC.

The Public Policy Education Committee meets four times a year - January, March, September and November - on the first Wednesday of the month, 2:30 – 4:00 pm via Wisline. We also plan again to sponsor a workshop on Public Policy Issues across all program areas at the upcoming JCEP conference in April. We will invite guest speakers to address current issues during our 2007 meetings.

Please feel free to contact any member of our committee and check out our website at <http://www.>

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cfmxtest.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/ Click on Committees and Public Policy Education for more details.
Please join us!

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE FROM NEAFCS
Jennifer Caravella Co-Chair, WEAFCFS Public Policy Committee

In October, I attended the public policy meeting at the NEAFCS Annual Conference in Denver. At this meeting, Judith Breland, Vice President of Public Affairs talked about NEAFCS' Living Well Campaign. Living Well Week is a public service campaign (<http://learningandlivingwell.org>) created in October 2002, to raise consumer awareness of the educational resources available through Extension Family & Consumer Science Educators across the nation. State Extension organizations and county offices are asked to help promote the Living Well campaign by providing local media with audio or video scripts available on the NEAFCS website (www.neafcs.org) under the "Members Only" link. Living Well week runs March 11-17, 2007, but can be marketed as early as January.

To support this campaign, NEAFCS is offering ten, \$500 Mini Grants to be used for promoting the campaign. This can be used to cover the costs of developing and/or producing marketing materials, purchasing media time or advertising. An application form for the Mini Grants is available from the NEAFCS web site. Award applications are due by January 12, 2007, so hurry up and apply if you think you would like to bring more attention to your Extension programming!

PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES
Submitted by Marilyn Kooiker, Co-Chair

The Public Policy Education Committee met on November 1st via Wisline. Our guest speaker was Jennifer Garner, Special Assistant to the Chancellor. Jennifer addressed public policy issues related to family living on the state and local levels which are "budget drivers;" namely human service issues and the W-2 program. Juvenile delinquency in counties is very expensive if the youth are transported to Wales or Lincoln Hills. Health care affordability and access is a concern to citizens.

What is the most appropriate level for Family Living Agents/Educators to program in, as every county is concerned about health care issue? UW-Extension works in prevention. How do we program with families who are already struggling?

There is a Legislative Study Committee looking at these issues and they make recommendations to the state legislature:

- 1) Crimes against children.
- 2) Strengthening Wisconsin families (this is an area in which we can be helpful)
- 3) Returning 17-year-olds to the juvenile system (out of the adult system). Education is needed here.

How much do we dabble in these issues and how do we develop resources relevant to a statewide audience and also relate to local issues? How do family living agents develop programs to address healthcare issues in their local communities? The rising cost of health care and access to health care is a broader issue. Most family living educators work with coalitions on healthy lifestyle issues. It may be useful to have a

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brainstorming session with Roberta Riportella and a health economist with the Family Living Healthcare Team to pull together ideas on how to make it easier for educators to address this issue. Cost and access to health care are the most important issues facing stakeholders.

Thank you to Jennifer Garner for sharing her expertise in this area. The PPE Committee may again be sponsoring a panel discussion at the 2007 JCEP conference to address public policy concerns over all UW-Extension program areas. Also our Wislines for 2007 will be extended by ½ hour to allow for a guest speaker, followed by our business meeting. Dates for 2007 Wislines will be January 3, March 7, September 5, November 7, 2007, all from 2:30 – 4:00 pm.

Everyone is invited to join us for our Wislines or to join our Committee.

Member Resources Committee

Peggy Olive, Chair

The Member Resources Committee met via WisLine on October 17, 2006. The MRC finalized the “Top 10 Reasons to Join WEAFCS” list to be used for member recruitment. Committee members Marma McIntee and Donna Peterson are currently drafting discussion points for expanding WEAFCS membership categories, including honorary memberships for recent retirees. The MRC discussed the possibility of having a WEAFCS “Living Well” display and fund-raising popcorn sales at the January 2007 Family Living Programs Conference. The committee also explored the idea of having a special gathering for honorees before the awards banquet at the JCEP Conference in Neenah.

WisLine meetings for 2007 have been scheduled from 11am – 12pm on the following dates:

- Tuesday, February 20th
- Tuesday, May 15th
- Tuesday, October 16th

Vice President / Editor

Jenny Wehmeier

The new WEAFCS website is up and ready to go! Please visit the website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/> A special thank you to Mary Lucas and Allen Robinson for all of their hard work on maintaining and updating the website. New features of the website include:

- Retirees Corner—retirees can post information about events and activities or updates about life after Extension!
- Awards & Recognition—you will now be able to access NEAFCS Awards and Recognition information by visiting your state affiliate. Be sure to note the new deadline for many awards.
- Calendar—view wislines and conferences on our updated calendar. Also, be sure to email any information that you would like added to the calendar.

As always, please feel free to send me any feedback on the website or this publication!



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