



Wisconsin Affiliate
National Extension Association
of Family and Consumer Sciences

Communiqué

January 2009

President's Letter

Mary Novak, WEAFCs President



Dear Members,

It's a bustling time of year with reporting our successes, and we have a month of work fit into a three week or less time frame. It can feel hectic and rushed. I had the chance to attend a program called the "Balancing Act" at Galaxy, and I learned that I had the "one more thing syndrome." That is, after completing all the items on my list, I add one more thing to do rather than relax and enjoy my accomplishments. We were asked to set a goal, and I was quick to decide to get rid of that habit! Interestingly, no one has noticed that one more thing I chose not to do.

As the new year begins, I encourage you to join me in saying no to adding "one more thing" to your list. It's a good time to slow down, reflect on our year of programs, the benefits families received from the education we delivered, and simply recharge. Do schedule real time off, no e-mail, no taking work home or quick office visits. Simply enjoy the beauty of the season.

NEAFCS Wants to Hear from You – Budget Ideas

The NEAFCS National Board would like your ideas about ways to reduce costs and increase income for NEAFCS during these "interesting" financial times.

Please go to the following link to offer your ideas for budget issues for NEAFCS! Your ideas are important!

<http://doodle.com/xsizfkf5c2tynk4p>

President's Letter, continued. . .

NEAFCS 75th Anniversary

Next year we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of NEAFCS! It will be an opportunity to celebrate our heritage and embrace our future.

Check out 75 ways to celebrate the NEAFCS Anniversary at this website:

<http://www.neafcs.org/assets/NEAFCS-75-Ways-to-Celebrate-the-75th-Checklist.pdf>

NEAFCS Endowment

Remember to consider contributing \$75 to the NEAFCS Endowment Campaign as part of your annual giving. Check out your colleagues who have generously contributed toward this campaign. These funds will help to shape the future of our profession.

Happy Holidays!

A five year old child at our office excitedly talked about playing in the snow and exclaimed, "It was the best day of my whole life!" That sweet and simple joy and contentment is what I wish for you in 2009.

Public Policy Committee

Jennifer Caravella & Gail Peavey, Co-Chairs

Living Well Campaign: January through March!

In October 2002, NEAFCS launched a public service campaign to raise consumer awareness of the valuable educational resources available through Extension Family & Consumer Sciences. This campaign was called, "Living Well." On February 28, 2005 the US Senate passed a Senate resolution, recognizing Extension Living Well Week. Living Well Week was developed to encourage all Americans to improve their health and well-being by taking advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the local Extension Family and Consumer Sciences professionals through the state and national Cooperative Extension System. Through Living Well, families learn to raise kids, eat right, spend smart, and live well. Extension Living Well Week is celebrated the second full week of March each year.



NEAFCS is targeting January through March as the time period for Living Well PSAs to be released. NEAFCS members are asked to contact their local newspapers, radio and television stations to air the public service announcements. These announcements along with other Living Well Campaign resources can be found at the following link: <http://www.neafcs.org/content.asp?pageID=189>

Please consider participating in the campaign this year! It's a perfect opportunity to let your community hear about all the wonderful programming you and your colleagues are providing!

Awards and Recognition Committee

Cyndy Jacoby & Luane Meyer, Co-Chairs

'Tis the season to be overwhelmed with reporting to family members, long time friends, and the UW- Extension reporting system. As you report to UWEX, begin thinking about writing a WEAFCFS or NEAFCS awards application.

Do you want information on how to write a NEAFCS award winning application? The NEAFCS website is the place to look for tips that may place your award application ahead of others. See http://www.neafcs.org/assets/Award_Winning_Applications!.pdf NEAFCS awards are many and varied. You can be a winner too. You can also check out the NEAFCS awards manual, five 2008 NEAFCS award winning applications, and other award information at the following link:

<http://www.neafcs.org/content.asp?pageID=3>.

You will find that the NEAFCS web site has the 2009 award updates which includes the awards manual and awards at a glance. A new feature is a link to examples of some of the 2008 national award winners' applications. Be aware of the 2009 changes that bring applications up to date with the use of podcasts, online newsletters, and the deletion of overhead transparencies. Karen Joos attended the NEAFCS Awards Committee Meeting at Galaxy. Both Luane and I appreciated Karen's effort very much. **Karen's notes from the meeting place the most emphasis on the importance of following the application guidelines or directions carefully.** Now is the time to begin to review the guidelines on the web sites.

The following changes are to be noted for WEAFCFS awards:

- The monetary award for the following awards has increased from **\$50 to \$75**:
 - 1) Team Effort-Internal Partners, 2) Joan Keup - Para-Professional, 3) Ardith Murphy – Volunteer, 4) M. Richert "Rookie," 5) Mid Career, and 6) Rosalie Powell financial.
- NEAFCS award winners who attend the national conference will receive \$50 from the WEAFCFS budget in addition to the monetary award received at the national meeting.
- All applications are due by FEBRUARY 1. The national chair will notify all NEAFCS members by e-mail when the required on-line award application form is available. **BECAUSE WEAFCFS HAS THE FEBRUARY 1 DUE DATE, THE ON-LINE FORM MAY BE SENT WHEN AVAILABLE FROM NEAFCS.**

IMPORTANT: Please note that all the links to NEAFCS awards materials do not work at the WEAFCFS site. Use the links above.

Those members eligible for the Distinguished Service Award and the Continued Excellence Award are highly encouraged to apply. There were no applications last year and therefore no recognition at the national meeting. We do not want a repeat of that again this year. For more information send an email to either luane.meyer@ces.uwex.edu or cyndy.jacoby@ces.uwex.edu. Happy writing!!!

Member Resources Committee

Ruth Schriefer, Chair

The WEAFCFS Member Resources Committee met via WisLine on October 7, 2008.

The committee continued to discuss our responsibilities as outlined in the WEAFCFS Guidelines. One specific duty is to maintain the file of computerized biographical sketches for all active members. We are determining if these forms are actually used, where they are stored, if the Department of Family Development has a need for them, and whether or not Association members typically keep their information updated. If the biographical sketches are not used for anything, then the committee will ask that this duty be eliminated.

We are happy to report that the proposed “state only” membership option bylaw change was voted on and approved. That information is being communicated in the ongoing membership drive. If you haven’t joined or renewed your membership for 2009, go to the WEAFCFS website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/members.cfm>

Karen Dickrell reported on her participation in the NEAFCS Member Resources Committee sharing at Galaxy. A new brochure will be coming out from NEAFCS highlighting the 75th anniversary of the organization. Karen noted that 54% of the national dues are used to fund mini-grants, scholarships and awards.

WEAFCFS members are encouraged to sign up for a national committee. Go to the website at <http://www.neafcs.org/content.asp?pageID=98> to see the list of committees and to join a committee.

Karen also announced that Lands’ End is now the official outlet for NEAFCS merchandise. Go to <http://www.neafcs.org/content.asp?pageID=1504> if you are interested in “logo’d” apparel or totebags.

The 2009 National Meeting will be September 15 – 18th in Birmingham, AL.

WisLine meeting dates for 2009 were set as February 3, May 12th, and October 6 via WisLine at 11:00 a.m.

Membership Update

Bev Doll, WEAFCFS Treasurer

Reminder: WEAFCFS/NEAFCS membership renewal was due on December 1, 2008. Annual dues are \$110 (\$70 goes to NEAFCS, \$40 stays with the Wisconsin affiliate). Forms can be found at the WEAFCFS website:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/forms.cfm>

The Retiree Corner

Brought to you by the Member Resources Committee

A Retirement Short Story

By Marjorie Hamann

NOTE: Marge Hamann was a Family Living Educator in Manitowoc County and District Program Leader in Wisconsin before moving on to positions in other states.

I'll always know how many years I've been retired by checking with my granddaughter's age. In June of 1995, I retired from the UIUC Extension Service, moved back to Madison and was blessed with a beautiful granddaughter. She is now 13 ½ years old.

My best and most interesting work was caring for my two oldest grandchildren most days of the week until they started school. We went to library story hours, kiddy gyms, craft hours for kids and everything else we could find. We picked and ate raspberries in the backyard, raked and jumped in piles of leaves, made snowmen and generally had a great time. My best friends at that time were all about 35 yrs old; parents of the other children involved.

During that time I also worked on a research project with the Madison Police Department. I collected antidotal information on MPD middle management as the Dept moved toward community policing. I had to do a survey and write a research report just like being at work in Extension!

To this day I still know many in the MPD which comes in very handy as I work on various community projects. It's very nice to be a friend of the Chief.

I now have three grandchildren and work in their school classrooms whenever possible. It's a very nice place to observe how everyone is doing and feel that I'm making a good contribution.

Although most of my time is spent with family and friends I am involved in quite a bit of volunteering. As a member of Zonta of Madison I lead a committee called Status of Women. Our main work is to raise funds to eradicate domestic violence in Dane Co. The Zonta Zing is our main fund raiser and we have a ruckus good time in addition to raising money.

I also serve on The Board of Directors of the Pres House Student Foundation which is a campus ministry on the UW-Madison campus. We just built a 250 student residence facility right behind our Library Mall Church. We are currently involved in Strategic Planning which also sounds like Extension work!

Those of you who know me know that I travel during the cold months. Florida in January, Mexico in February and this year, Texas in March. My travel centers around friends and getting my cuticles back in shape for Wisconsin.

Summers you can find me at my Lake Michigan cottage in Wisconsin where I do a lot of biking and kayaking. If you are thinking of retiring, do it. It is a good thing. The choice of how you spend your time is totally yours! As I decorate my house for Christmas, I'm also packing for Florida.

NEAFCS Annual Session Call for Proposals and Reviewers



The NEAFCS Program Development Sub-Committee invites NEAFCS members to submit proposals for Concurrent Sessions and Showcases of Excellence. You may submit only ONE Concurrent Session and ONE Showcase of Excellence (poster session) application as an individual or contact person of a team. To apply, submit application, program description and program abstract by January 15, 2009.

<http://www.x-cd.com/neafcs09/Abstract.cfm>

The NEAFCS Program Development Sub-Committee is also requesting volunteer reviewers for the 2009 Annual Session concurrent session proposals. To become a reviewer, please complete the online form NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2008.

<http://www.neafcs.org/reviewer-application.asp>

Important Dates to Remember

JCEP Wisconsin Annual Conference

March 31—April 2, 2009

Madison

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/jcepwi/conference/index.html>

2009 Priester Health Conference

April 6—8, 2009

Indianapolis, IN

www.conf.purdue.edu/priester

2009 North Central Region Urban Extension Conference

April 7—9, 2009

Milwaukee

<http://urbanconference2009.uwex.edu/>

2009 Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD)

April 27—29, 2009

Washington, D.C.

<http://www.jcep.org/pild.htm>

2009 NEAFCS Annual Session

September 14—19, 2009

Birmingham, AL

www.neafcs.org