



Communiqué

National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Wisconsin Affiliate

January 2008

President's Letter

Kathy Metzenbauer, WEAFCFS President

Happy New Year!

NEAFCS National Meeting:

It is hard to believe that the national meeting is behind us and just a memory. Being in St. Paul, Minnesota we had wonderful participation. I hope all the 'first-timers' enjoyed this conference and will consider traveling to the Galaxy III conference in Indianapolis this fall. Congratulations to seven of our members for receiving national wards.

Committees:

Thanks to all committee chairs and members for their leadership and work this past year. Great ideas have been generated and pursued. This great effort makes our organization even better by emphasizing our scholarly work. Keep up the great job!

JCEP:

The JCEP conference will be April 1-3, 2008 in Eau Claire. The planning committee is hard at work organizing this event. Please consider presenting a break-out session, providing a poster session and be sure to apply for awards. Last year we had 32 members apply for awards. Let's break this record!

Conclusion:

As we approach the New Year and think about our resolutions, be sure to balance work and family. Schedule time for yourself. Reflect on the positive things you have done for others and do something for yourself.

Have a happy, healthy and wonderful New Year!

Did you know.....

We will be electing a new Treasurer, Vice President / Editor, and Chair-Elects for the Public Policy, Member Resources, Public Policy, and Professional Development Committees in 2008? This is a great opportunity for more people to become involved in the work of the association. Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one of these roles. Please contact Mary Nowak at mary.nowak@ces.uwex.edu for your information. Hope to see your name on the ballot.

Member Resources Committee

Peggy Olive, Chair

The Member Resources Committee met via WisLine on October 16, 2007. The MRC discussed membership types and dues, with the suggestion of surveying current members regarding the source of their association dues (personal, county, etc.). Members were also encouraged to contact honorary members that they've stayed in touch with to seek contributions to the WEAFCFS website. In addition, the draft membership proposal reviewed by the MRC will be discussed during the next WEAFCFS Executive Board meeting.

Ideas gleaned from the NEAFCS Annual Conference for acknowledging and appreciating new, continuing, and life members were discussed. The MRC felt that several of the suggestions would be fitting for WEAFCFS and will revisit these. The ideas shared by various State Affiliates will be summarized and posted on the NEAFCS website at a later date by the national committee chair.

Committee member Karen Dickrell is Chair for the NEAFCS MRC on Diversity Issues and is seeking suggestions for books, articles, or other resources on diversity. Please contact Karen with any suggestions. Karen will further discuss the goals of this NEAFCS committee during the next MRC wisline.

WL meetings for 2008 are scheduled from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. on the following dates:

- Tuesday, February 5th
- Tuesday, May 6th
- Tuesday, October 7th

The MRC welcomed several new committee members in 2007, including Kristen Bruder, Mary Knellwolf, and Chris Kniep. If you're interested in sustaining a strong association focused on members' needs, then you too are invited to join the MRC. Contact Peggy Olive for more information.

Membership Update

Mary Fran Lepaska, Treasurer

As of January 3, 2008, 41 have paid dues for state and national membership, including one new member. We also have two WEAFCFS Associate members. To be eligible for national awards, NEAFCS dues must be paid by January 31, so please mail your checks for \$110 along with the WEAFCFS and NEAFCS forms to Mary Fran Lepaska, 121 W. Main St., Port Washington 53074 no later than January 28th.

Dear WEAFCFS Awards Committee and Fellow Members,

I want to thank you for the honor of being selected for the NEAFCS Distinguished Service Award. Our Wisconsin Annual Conference attendees were all so thoughtful with their kind wishes and "at-a-girls." And I know for a fact that I have never been referred to as "distinguished" before. Now the lovely corsage is dried up and the skirt is hung back up in my closet, but the feeling of accomplishment and recognition still lingers.

Most sincerely,
Margaret Mary (Peggy) Olive

Awards & Recognition Committee

Cyndy Jacoby and Luane Meyer, Co-chairs

Now that a major holiday season has passed, you may have time to celebrate your professional achievements. Consider making part of this celebration a WEAFCFS/NEAFCS awards application.

For a glance at the 2008 NEAFCS award possibilities go to <http://www.neafcs.org/mpmuploads/Awards-at-a-Glance-2008.pdf>. For complete details for NEAFCS awards go the AWARDS MANUAL at <http://www.neafcs.org/content.asp?pageID=19>

To apply for a NEAFCS award, you must go to the “Members Only” section at <http://www.neafcs.org/>, log in, and select the Online Awards Application link. To log in, you must have paid your membership dues.

The WEAFCFS awards are described at the WEAFCFS web site, <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/weafcs/awards.cfm#awards>.

WEAFCS recognizes not only the achievements of its members, but also those of para-professionals, volunteers, and friends of Extension. These awards can be found at the previous web site.

The DEADLINE for all award applications is FEBRUARY 1, 2008. The only exception is the First-Timers grant that provides funds to attend the NEAFCS annual conference. Please read through the criteria at both the NEAFCS and WEAFCFS web sites thoroughly.

Send all completed applications to Luane Meyer, Jackson County UWEX, 227 South 11th Street, Black River Falls, Wisconsin 54615

Congratulations to the following WEAFCFS members who were National and Regional winners at the NEAFCS 2007 conference in St. Paul.

National Winners

Gayle Rose Martinez received the Dean Don Felker Financial Management 1st Place Award

Marilyn Kooiker received the Extension Housing Outreach 1st Place Award

Kathleen Hetzel, Joan Laurion, Sue Nagelkerk, Cheryl Rue Stapleton, Mary Roach, and Tina Ginner received the Early Childhood Child Care Training 1st Place Award.

Regional Winners

Pam Peterson received 2nd place Central Region recognition in Communication-Radio and Educational Technology.

For a complete list of national winners go to <http://www.neafcs.org/mpmuploads/2007-Awards-Program.pdf>.

Let's have a good showing in 2008!!!

WEAFCS Professional Development

Committee Report

Pam Peterson, Chair of WEAFCS Professional Development Committee

As you create your Plan of Work and anticipate your 2008 program needs, consider these exciting professional development opportunities:

JCEP Regional Leadership Meeting, North Central/West: San Diego, CA, February 20 - 22, 2008, Marriott San Diego Del Mar. For more information visit <http://www.jcep.org/workshops.htm>

Fulfilling the Promise Conference, March 11 - 12, 2008, Country Springs Hotel, Waukesha, Wis. Find the brochure at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/conference/pdfs/ftp2008.pdf> Keynote: Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, *Sleepless in America: Is Your Child Misbehaving or Missing Sleep?*

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence will hold its biennial **Blueprints Conference**, March 17-19, 2008, in Denver, CO. The conference will provide information on youth violence, delinquency, and evidence-based prevention and intervention programs. To obtain additional information about the 2008 Blueprints conference and register online, visit <http://www.blueprintsconference.com>.

National Youth Crime Prevention Conference and International Forum, March 26-29, 2008, Miami, FL. Designed for youth 12-22 and the adults who work with them, the conference will address such topics as crime, drug, and violence prevention. As customary, youth participants will play a significant role. To access further information, including a registration form, visit the conference Web site at <http://www.ycwa.org/youthcon/index.html>.

JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) Conference, April 1-3, 2008, Plaza Hotel, Eau Claire, WI. Visit <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/jcepwi/conference/index.html> for more information.

Together for Children – Wisconsin Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 7-8, 2008, Ho Chunk Hotel & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI. For more information visit [http://www.preventchildabusewi.org/\\$spindb.query.annconf.pcawview](http://www.preventchildabusewi.org/$spindb.query.annconf.pcawview)

Priester National Extension Health Conference, *Building Healthy Communities, One Person at a Time*, April 8-10, 2008, Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina, celebrates Cooperative Extension's long history of promoting health and preventing disease for individuals of every age and background, in families of all types, living in rural, suburban, and urban communities. Visit <http://www.neafcs.org/default.asp> for more information.

20th Anniversary of the Adolescents and Families Conference, April 17-18, 2008, Heartwood Conference Center & Resort, Trego, WI – find out more online at: <http://www.uwec.edu/ce/humanSer/adolescents/savethedate.htm>

26th Annual “Protecting Our Children” National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, April 20-23, 2008, Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota – find out more online at <http://www.nicwa.org/conference/>

Shaping a Healthy Future IV: A Rocky Mountain Conference is set for April 23-25, 2008, Jackson Hole, Wyoming. This will be the fourth such conference focused on improving health at any age, weight, or income. The conference will include research updates by leading experts in their fields, thoughtful perspectives on contemporary issues, access to resources and training workshops, and many networking opportunities. For information visit <http://outreach.uwyo.edu/conferences/healthyfutures/>.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Early Childhood Education Conference, UW-Stout, April 24-26, 2008. Thursday's all-day pre conference Workshops provide opportunities for in-depth study in specific areas. The Thursday evening Early Bird sessions allow participants an opportunity to maximize their time at the conference; while the individual sessions provided on Friday and Saturday allow participants an opportunity to choose from a wide variety of early childhood related topics. For more information visit http://www.uwstout.edu/outreach/conf/ece/ececonf_intro.htm.

Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference, "Connectivity: Community to the Capitol," April 28 - 30, 2008, Key Bridge Marriott Arlington, Virginia. For conference details, visit <http://www.jcep.org/PILDFlyer08.pdf>. Conference scholarships may be available from each association. Contact your respective association for eligibility.

CYFAR (Children, Youth and Families at Risk conference), May 6-9, 2008, Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. Visit <http://www.cyfernet.org/cyfar08/> to learn more about the conference and to submit proposals.

2008 Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference, May 19 – 22, 2008, Midwest Airlines Center, Milwaukee, WI is the only national conference focused on the *prevention* of child abuse and neglect through a variety of strategies including home visitation, research, parent education, public policy and advocacy, parent leadership, and integrated services for family support. For more information about the conference, exhibits or to register for their free e-newsletter, please visit the website: <http://www.preventchildabuse.org/events/conference/index.shtml>

Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health First Annual Wisconsin Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Conference, "Early Relationships Matter: Building Networks," June 19-20, 2008. Full Day Pre-conference Sessions, June 18th Concourse Hotel, Madison, WI.

Keynote Presenters: Roseanne Clark, Ph.D., Director of the Parent-Infant and Early Childhood Clinic and Post Partum Depression Treatment Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, MA, Director of Parentchildhelp.com, author of a number of books including *Raising Your Spirited Child*. Visit the WI-AIMH website for more details and proposal submission at www.wiaimh.org

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) presents *Evolving Technology: Impact on Individuals, Families and Communities*, June 19-22, Milwaukee, WI AAFCS' members are educators, researchers, administrators, Cooperative Extension educators, and other professionals in business and industry, not-for-profit organizations, and government who help individuals, families, and communities make informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life. For more information visit <http://www.neafcs.org/events.asp?pageID=1377>

GALAXY III Conference, *Celebrating the Extension System: Strengths, Diversity, and Unique Qualities.*" September 15-19, 2008, Indianapolis, Indiana. Call for proposals due January 15, 2008. For more information about the conference or to submit a proposal, visit <https://sharepoint.agriculture.purdue.edu/ces/galaxy/default.aspx>

Children Come First Conference, October 2008, for professionals who work with children with emotional and behavioral disorders and parents of those children. Participants will learn creative ways to strengthen families, advocate for children and families, and become community leaders for the support and treatment of children with complex needs. For more information visit www.wccf.org/event

Through the Eyes of a Child, November 13-14, 2008, Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells. For more information contact Elaine Barrett at 1-888-391-4255.

NEAFCS Annual Session and Exhibits, June 15-18, 2009, Birmingham, Alabama. Visit the NEAFCS website at <http://www.neafcs.org/default.asp> for more information.

WEAFCS Public Policy Education Committee

Jennifer Caravella, Marilyn Kooiker, Co-Chairs

What is Public Policy Education?

Extension Educators can be called upon to help groups or organizations create or re-write a policy that will have an effect on the public. The *purpose of policy education* is to establish fact and destroy myth while respecting the values of citizens. An appropriate role for an extension educator might be to help the group define the problem, discuss alternative solutions and their probable consequences, backed by research and empirical observations. Final policy decisions are then left up to the group to make. (taken from the National Public Policy Education Conference www.farmfoundation.org/nppecindex.htm)

The mission of WEAFC's Public Policy Education Committee is to:

- Educate WEAFC's 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 WEAFC's.
- Promote the Public Issues Leadership Development Conference

Currently, the Public Policy Committee is inviting interested WEAFC's members to join this committee. If you are looking for a place to share your talents, contact Marilyn Kooiker marilyn.kooiker@ces.uwex.edu or Jennifer Caravella jennifer.caravella@ces.uwex.edu for more information. We would love to have you on our team!

Vice President / Editor

Jenny Wehmeier

During my tenure as your Vice President / Editor, I have had the opportunity to learn so much about WEAFC's and NEAFCS. As a voting delegate at the national conference, I was involved in the decision making of policy and leadership on behalf of our association. As your Vice President, I attended the JCEP regional meeting held in St. Louis, MO. I was able to gather information on international experiences available to Extension workers while representing WEAFC's in matters of the central region.

As a "newer" professional of WEAFC's, I have been provided an excellent opportunity and education. I have been able to work with state staff on web site redesign and updates and with each one of you on the specifics of your committees and duties.

As my tenure as Vice President / Editor winds down, I want to say "thank you." I would like to also encourage you to consider this position in your future. Share your gifts with the association. You will be glad that you did!

