

Press Release

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NEAFCS ANNOUNCES THE 2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

NEAFCS (National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences), the professional association for Extension Family and Consumer Science professionals, recognized three exceptional women inductees for their commitment, dedication and effective leadership and involvement in NEAFCS at the state, regional and/or national level. They were inducted into the Hall of Fame at the 2021 NEAFCS Virtual Annual Session on November 5.

THE 2021 DISTINGUISHED INDUCTEES ARE:

- Donna Donald
- Judy Hetterman
- Carol Schlitt

"The National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Hall of Fame was established in 2019 to recognize outstanding NEAFCS members who have contributed their time, talent and/or treasure to the NEAFCS."

INDUCTEES' BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Donna Donald has been dedicated to NEAFCS since her membership began in 1974. She served on dozens of state and national committees and held elected offices at the state, regional, and national level over the last four decades. Donna served as Iowa Affiliate President in 1982, Central Region Director 1992-1993, and, most notably, National President-elect in 1995, National President in 1996, and National Past-president in 1997. Donna provided her expertise in mass communications by serving as the National Editor of *The Reporter* from 1986 to 1988. Currently, she lends her talents and expertise to the Iowa affiliate as the Historian and Parliamentarian. Donna has attended at least 36 NEAFCS annual sessions, presented at five annual sessions, and received various NEAFCS awards for her dedication and service to individuals, families, communities, and the association. Donna demonstrates her commitment to the association every day as a passionate advocate for the profession and by providing support, guidance, and encouragement to affiliate members as they pursue leadership roles at all levels. Donna's strength as a leader has led to her current position as

supervisor for 34 Human Sciences field specialists. She lives the NEAFCS mission by mentoring and coaching specialists along their professional journey, encouraging active membership in NEAFCS as part of that journey. Donna K. Donald's outstanding leadership at all levels of NEAFCS and her dedication to its mission and values makes her a deserving candidate for the NEAFCS 2021 Hall of Fame.

Judy Hetterman is a true Extension Professional. Her service to the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and the citizens of Owen County is unprecedented.

Judy led the charge for all new Family and Consumer Science Agents hired in the Northern KY Area to join KEAFCS. She has served in many officer position at the Area level as well as many chairmanships at the state level of KEAFCS. Judy served as KEAFCS State Treasurer and President.

Her dedication to her professional organization, the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences is reflected in the many roles she has undertaken. Judy has served as a national chairman for arrangements, national chairman for membership, NEAFCS treasurer (2009-2011), NEAFCS Endowment Chair, and the FCS liaison for the first Galaxy Conference held in Ohio. She led the charge for Kentucky FCS agents to host the NEAFCS annual conference in 2014. Her main goal for undertaking this effort was for the benefit of our FCS staff – she felt that the many new agents in the organization would gain great experience and new friendships with established agents that had experienced many national conferences. She served as treasurer for this successful national conference, and chairman of the Welcome Event. Judy has always been an encourager, and mentor to others sharing her knowledge and skills.

“Judy Hetterman -- a woman of excellence, integrity with a wealth of good ideas to share. She nurtures an environment of peace and harmony. She shows a positive influence to all ages. She is a giver, an excellent teacher, a good listener, and uses her skills and abilities to make a difference. She is never satisfied with mediocrity, and has no need of a wrist watch as she works until the job at hand is completed. Judy is loved and appreciated by countless people with whom she is associated.” *Provided by Dot Olds, Owen County Homemaker member.*

There will never be another Judy Hetterman and her dedication to her family, county, profession and NEAFCS.

Carol Schlitt has been a member of NEAFCS since 1991. Her service to the Illinois affiliate is remarkable; serving as President, 1995-1996; Treasurer, 2004-2006; Southern Region Director, 1998-2002; Southern Region Secretary, 1999-2010. Her commitment to service led her to seek national offices including Historian, 2014-2020, President, 2006-2007; President-elect, 2005-2006; Central Region Director, 2001-2003; Secretary, 1998-2000. Schlitt is one of only seven Illinois affiliate members who have served as NEAFCS President.

She has served as mentor, advisor, and source of all things Extension to the many NEAFCS members from Illinois and all across the US who sought her advice. Besides the many IEAFCS and NEAFCS leadership roles she has filled, Schlitt has also served as President and President-elect (2006-2008) of the Joint Council for Extension Professionals. She has also provided leadership for her Illinois Extension colleagues by serving as team leader for the Nutrition and Wellness educators (2002-2004), and as an interim associate regional director (2008-2010). Schlitt provided assistance and guidance to staff striving for excellence and seeking promotion by serving on the Southern Region Peer Promotion Review Committee (2000-2010).

Mrs. Schlitt has proven her excellence in programming and collaboration over the years through the many awards she has received including the Distinguished Service, Continued Excellence and National Community Partnership Awards with NEAFCS. She has also been awarded numerous Outstanding Team awards and Outstanding Educator award with Illinois Extension.

Her commitment to the mission and values of NEAFCS is evident by her long years of leadership. During Schlitt's tenure NEAFCS saw many changes, she embraced them and lead the organization to new levels. In her "retirement" Schlitt took on the role as NEAFCS historian, serving six years. She made the history of NEAFCS and Extension come alive in the stories she shared. Schlitt even researched the local history of annual session sites to make attendees experiences all the more rich. Sitting in on a Carol Schlitt history session was both educational and entertaining—she always found interesting tidbits of local lore to share with her audiences, making history come alive!

ABOUT NEAFCS

The National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) educates and recognizes Extension professionals who impact the quality of life for individuals, families and communities. NEAFCS is the professional organization for Extension Family and Consumer Sciences that builds leaders for the future, recognizes and promotes excellence and scholarship in Extension Family and Consumer Sciences programming, provides innovative professional growth and development opportunities, serves as a nation-wide resource for education, information, networking and partnerships, promotes Extension Family and Consumer Sciences and the mission and goals of the Land Grant University Extension System.

NEAFCS includes more than 2,900 members. To learn more, please visit www.neafcs.org.