

NEAFCS Network Newsletter

August 2022

President's Message

Susan Routh (OK), NEAFCS President



Please click the image above or visit <https://youtu.be/SgdoQcRVxoQ> to watch this month's President's Message.

What YOU Need to Know NOW in NEAFCS!

National Office Staff

- **August 16:** [Members-Only Webinar](#): Public Service Loan Forgiveness: Do's, Don'ts, Updates, and an October 31 Deadline
- **August 31, 2022** - Deadline to complete the [Public Affairs Survey](#)
- **August 31, 2022** – Deadline to assign Delegates for Annual Business Meetings
- **September 2, 2022** – Deadline to register for the [2022 NEAFCS Annual Session](#)

Invitation to Attend the 2022 NEAFCS Educational Awards Fund Business Meeting & Annual Business Meeting

National Office & Kate Shumaker (OH), NEAFCS Secretary

As a member of the NEAFCS, you are invited to attend the Educational Awards Fund Business Meeting and Annual Business Meeting taking place on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. These meetings will be held in Raleigh, NC in conjunction with the 2022 Annual Session.



Members should have received a separate email with this information earlier this month. This notice met the 30-day provision as stated in the NEAFCS Bylaws.

To view the full [Business Meeting packet](#), [click here](#).

Regional Business Meetings will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM in Raleigh, NC.

- [Click here to access the Central Region Business Meeting Packet](#)
- [Click here to access the Eastern Region Business Meeting Packet](#)
- [Click here to access the Southern Region Business Meeting Packet](#)
- [Click here to access the Western Region Business Meeting Packet](#)

These meetings are open to all members, however, only delegates are allowed to address the assembly. Please read the packet prior to the meeting and address any questions or concerns with your Affiliate.

Last Minute Annual Session Things to Know

Hayley Cowell (NC), NEAFCS 2022 Annual Session Tri-Liaison

The 2022 NEAFCS Annual Session is ONLY ONE MONTH AWAY... I hope you are all as excited as I am!!!

Here are just a handful of last-minute things to share:

1. Have you registered? Go to the [Registration Page](#) now and get this done. We are looking forward to a great turnout this year!
2. Deadline to submit for the silent auction is September 2, 2022. More info on this can be found [here](#).
3. You can support the 2022 Annual Session Service Project right NOW! This year we are accepting donations of any size for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. This [link](#) will take you to more information and the easy steps to donate online.
4. I am no weather woman, but on average Septembers in Raleigh range from about 65 degrees Fahrenheit to 80 degrees Fahrenheit. With that said, you should be very comfortable in about anything from shorts, pants, dresses, short sleeves, to long sleeves, and maybe a light jacket or cardigan for indoors (if the air conditioner is set on low).

5. Bring comfortable shoes just in case! The Convention Center is right across the street from the hotels, the Leadership Event is a ½ mile walk (transportation is an option), and the Welcome Event is onsite, so there will not be long distance walking required for our sessions. However, we would rather you be safe than sorry.
6. The Hospitality Committee encourages everyone to stop by and get some samples of NC grown and made products, play some games, and check out some awesome [things to do in Raleigh!](#)
7. Lastly, the North Carolina affiliate has been working extremely hard to bring you an amazing professional development opportunity as well as some fun (that we can finally have in person)! We look forward to seeing you all very soon. Wishing you all safe travels.

Bid Early, Bid Often!

Samantha Kennedy (FL), NEAFCS Vice President for Awards and Recognition



The 2022 NEAFCS annual session is fast approaching and I, for one, am so excited to finally be in person again. I am looking forward to seeing many of you in September in beautiful Raleigh, NC.

As in previous conferences, we will be holding a silent auction this year to raise money in support of the NEAFCS awards and recognition program. Proceeds from the auction allow NEAFCS to continue providing monetary support for award winners to attend the conference, be recognized for their accomplishments, and share their fantastic work with their FCS colleagues around the country.

This year's auction will be hybrid, meaning some items will be available online and some will be available in person. This is a new format we are trying in order to make the auction more accessible to more members. Members who cannot attend the conference can still participate in the online auction, while those in attendance will have exclusive access to items only available at the conference. The online auction will open August 29 and run through September 14, the last day of the conference.

I encourage you to bid early and bid often in support of the NEAFCS Awards and Recognition program.

To learn more about the silent auction and other ways to support NEAFCS, please visit: <https://neafcs.memberclicks.net/2022-silent-auction>.

NEAFCS Silent Auction

Cheryl Barber Spires (OH), NEAFCS Sponsorship & Support Committee

Hello NEAFCS Colleagues. As part of the Awards Sponsorship and Support Committee, I am getting very excited about our upcoming Silent Auction. The deadline to assist us in raising money to directly support NEAFCS awards is September 2.

HOW TO DONATE:

- Download and fill out the [Silent Auction Donation form](#) - **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS SEPTEMBER 2, 2022**
- Email your completed form to us at awards@neafcs.org
- Make sure to take at least one picture (more are encouraged!) and send it along with the form when you email it to us
- If your item is Shipping Only, consider selecting an item, or items, which are easy to mail as you will be responsible for mailing your item(s) to the winner after Annual Session
- Not sure what, exactly, to donate? No problem, click [HERE](#) for items to consider and all the details of donating and bidding!



I have been an active part of this committee for more years than I can count. I still have sentimental pieces of jewelry and handbags that I have purchased at the auction. I have friends that I have made through serving and I treasure the fun we have doing great work to support our association.

I have a pair of pretty earrings that I will be donating this year and I am sure I will have a few more fun items to add.

Please connect with your state members, your project groups, and others to make group donations.

Be A Star!

Melissa Rupp (OH), NEAFCS Sponsorship & Support Committee

I am thrilled to be planning a trip to North Carolina and to be able to mingle, network, and learn from my FCS Colleagues across the nation. One of my favorite parts of the NEAFCS Annual Session is the awards and recognition of the great things that have been accomplished throughout the year. Did you know that those awards are funded through the awards and recognition committee? This has traditionally been the silent auction and now also includes your donation to the Star Donor program.



Be a star by donating \$50 to the Awards and Recognition committee and be a part of the 100-star constellation that supports the award program. Donate in honor of a colleague, a leader, or a past award recipient. Each donor will receive a star pin, in recognition and thanks, that can

proudly be worn at the 2022 Session (see *the star pin to the right*). This is limited to the first 100 donors [at this link](#).

Be A Star and help your colleagues to shine brightly at this years' awards ceremony.

**Melissa
Rupp**

Ohio



Promote Yourself! Advocating, Educating, and Marketing

Jennifer Bridge (KY), NEAFCS Vice President for Public Affairs

The NEAFCS annual conference is almost here! There will be several opportunities for members interested in public affairs to participate. During the opening session, we will reveal the three winners of the elevator speech contest and hear how they impact others. On Tuesday, Will Ferguson, from our management team, will be presenting a concurrent session on social media and how to promote your programs and impact. The Public Affairs committees will be meeting on Thursday afternoon of the conference so if you want to serve on a committee come see us! The current committees in Public Affairs are Advocacy, Education and Marketing. We will be discussing input from the survey, the upcoming plan of work and looking at future opportunities.



The affiliate Vice President for Public Affairs or contact training will be held on Tuesday, October 11, Noon ET. If you are serving in this role, please mark your calendars. I will send our more information prior to the meeting.

It's not too late to participate in the public affairs survey. Click the link to share ideas on how we can better serve you as members and build toward the future.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W8FFNKW>

Hope to see you in Raleigh!

Learn, Volunteer or Compete with your Social Media Skills

Pat Brinkman (OH), Vice President for Professional Development

Our Annual Session is less than a month away! I can't wait to see all of you! This is going to be a great time together!

As I announced last month Will Ferguson, our media champion, will be doing a skill building session on social media tips and tricks to help you. We want to highlight Extension and what we do. If you have questions on how to best make a video and post to TikTok or other social media questions, this session is for you.



We need volunteers to help others at Annual Session with learning some of these skills. For many of us one time is not enough to remember how to do it. If you have skills in social media, making short videos to post and are willing to volunteer, please send me an email at brinkman.93@osu.edu. I will contact you with times we will have this available.

Contest: With this in mind the Board decided to sponsor a contest for members. Have you made a TikTok or other social media video (time limit of 2 minutes) on a Family and Consumer Sciences subject that informs people on our science-based information on a topic, such as a food preservation, food safety, parenting tip, etc. If you have and would like to be entered into the contest, please send me (brinkman.93@osu.edu) the link for your video and the subject by September 2nd. The winning videos will be posted in an online Showcase. These will be judged, and winners announced at Annual Session.

We have two webinars this month: the first one is Public Service Loan Forgiveness: Do's, Don'ts, Updates, and October 31 Deadline on Tuesday, August 16th at 3 pm Eastern. The second one is An Extension Diabetes Prevention Implementation Toolkit on Thursday, August 25th at 3 pm Eastern. Register at [the Webinars page](#). All webinars are recorded and can be watched later from our website.

Why I Give to the NEAFCS Endowment Fund

Karen Ensle EdD, RDN, FAND, CFCS (NJ), FCHS Educator, Professor & County Extension Department Head, Family and Community Health Sciences Department, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County



NEAFCS created a well-managed endowment fund many years ago that has grown over the years creating stability for our national organization. It sends a message of planned long-term stability, fiscal responsibility, and financial viability. It enhances our organization's prestige and credibility with the Extension system across the country.

The Endowment fund has created an ongoing source of income that is invested in our membership and allows us to distribute back scholarships to our members for the wonderful education and applied research they do in their counties and states. Because a permanent endowment is an invested pool of money that provides a reliable source of income in perpetuity, NEAFCS can count on annual distributions for its membership and charitable work. With appropriate investment and spending policies, the endowment's purchasing power is preserved. The current Endowment generates income to operate which benefits our current and future members. The NEAFCS endowment fund continues to grow over time with additional gifts from our members and multiple donors.

Our Endowment fund has allowed program expansion and funding for awards and scholarships. Distributions from our endowment funds are decided by committee and approved by the board of directors. It provides us with funding outside of our yearly budget and is designed to fulfill a specific purpose supporting our members. It provides NEAFCS with an independent source of funds for specific projects following approved guidelines. It allows options for meeting new

challenges for FCS Extension by providing greater financial flexibility and a self-sustaining income stream.

We are building a pipeline for current and future gifts that will be used to build our NEAFCS financial security. I encourage you to contribute to our NEAFCS endowment fund as the current gifts enhance our ability to be a strong, viable organization within the Cooperative Extension system.

I encourage you to add yearly contributions to the endowment fund. Contributions large and small make a difference for our future. Consider applying for a scholarship that will fund one of your projects. Receiving an endowment scholarship not only benefits you---but benefits all of us. We are in this world together and we all can make a difference in the extension work we do. Support the NEAFCS endowment fund and take “small steps” to insure a bright future for our membership.

Ordinary Women Extraordinary Service – North Carolina’s history of Family and Consumer Sciences education

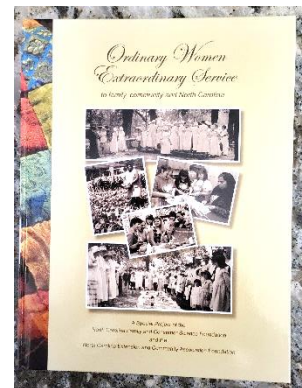
Christine Kniep (WI), NEAFCS Historian

Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Service – when I discovered this book in the Historian files and saw it was written by the colleagues hosting the 2022 Annual Session, I couldn’t resist pulling it from the files and start reading. The book highlights 100 years of the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) programs in North Carolina, which began as Home Demonstration and the work of the Extension and Community Association (ECA) which began as Home Demonstration Clubs.

The book chronicles how the focus of FCS work overtime has evolved, with credit given to Jane McKimmon, who in 1911 created the home demonstration program, a “rural women’s college with ever-broadening activities where women could learn together and create a strong camaraderie for neighbor and community”. From “Making the Most of What you Have” in the 1930’s to “A Welcome Respite” in the 1950’s, a “Decade of Social Changes” in the 1960’s and “New Ways to Learn” in the 1990’s, readers of the book can connect what was happening in our /country through stories written by FCS professionals and ECA members.

Many programs and services in North Carolina that are now taken for granted were started or supported by the Home Demonstration program – school hot lunches, libraries, book mobiles, literacy efforts, farmers markets and so much more.

With pride I’ll be visiting North Carolina in September reconnecting with “Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Service” from across the country! Thank you, North Carolina NEAFCS members, for writing and sharing this history book with NEAFCS.



Reaching Latinx: A First Glance

Michelle Brill (NJ), and Malu Tejada (PA), NEAFCS Diversity Committee

The NEAFCS Diversity Subcommittee decided to explore how FCS teams are meeting the needs of Latinx audiences, in particular the challenges faced when seeking to make educational materials available in Spanish. In April 2022, we distributed a Qualtrics survey to all NEAFCS members.

For the purposes of this newsletter, we included the most relevant and interesting findings and will share the full report at a later time. We received 121 responses (7% response rate) from 27 different states. Most respondents identified as non-Latino or non-Hispanic (82%) and 18% as Latino or Hispanic. There is widespread agreement that a need exists for Spanish translation of educational materials as well as translation into other languages. The vast majority (86%) of the Extension FCS units currently offer educational materials in Spanish. The materials most offered are curricula, facts sheets and videos. Translations are done mostly by the FCS' own unit and at its own expense, rather than at the Extension or college level. Most used a bilingual educator (27%) or a professional translator (23%). Only 17% had a dedicated position for translations. A third (33%) of respondents indicated that no compensation (free as a favor) was provided. Others used grant funds (28%) or internal funds (26%). Respondents expressed that this has not been a fiscal priority, noting that in many cases, translation is done on an as needed basis by a staff member who has other responsibilities and minimal time.

To better understand best practices, challenges, and the processes through which educational materials are made available in Spanish, further investigations, including qualitative methods, are needed, not only in FCS, but across Extension. Moreover, we recognize that addressing the needs of Latinx audiences and providing culturally sensitive materials goes far beyond language only. Perhaps conducting a wider needs assessment and data gathering exercise with other Extension departments should be the next step. We believe the findings would strengthen the case for sufficient funding and adequate staffing with fair compensation, as an integral part of the diversity and equity goals promoted by Cooperative Extension.

Life Members Update Zoom Meeting - June 8, 2022

Luann Boyer, NEAFCS Membership Committee

A small but mighty group of NEAFCS Life Members joined this Association Update at 4 pm ET on June 8. Membership Committee Chair Amanda Hardy welcomed all and gave a brief review of the meeting agenda.

Will Ferguson gave a short tutorial on navigating the NEAFCS website. He encouraged all Life Members to check the website to see if their Log In is still working. If you don't have a Log In to access the Member information on the website, contact Will for help in setting it up.



On the Member System, you can select My Profile which all Life Members are encouraged to check and update if necessary. On this page, you'll also see messages you have received - OR should have received from the NEAFCS. Across the top, you can select Connections where you can Browse the Association Directory to find both active and Life Members. Another option across the top bar is My Features where you will see information on Committees. Life Members can be on committees, and it is one way to stay connected with association activities. Take a few minutes and check out the Member section to see what is available to Life Members.

Michelle Wright, VP for Member Resources gave an update on the Bylaw changes made by NEAFCS. With the change, Life Members have the same membership privileges as active members. This includes being able to serve as a National Board Member.

Pat Brinkman shared some of her experiences with her NEAFCS Mentee. Being a Mentor is a 1-year commitment. Participants share information on monthly Zoom meetings learning about the Association as well as ways to be a better Extension professional and learning how to balance personal and professional responsibilities.

Pat also gave a brief update of the 2022 National Meeting in Raleigh, NC in September. Will mentioned that Life Members will have an Ala Carte Registration option where they select the specific events they wish to attend. The Life Member event will be held early in the week so they will be able to connect with their former colleagues. Will shared the NEAFCS Membership is currently 1,674 Active Members and 1,119 Life Members.

Life Members shared what is happening personally, and it was obvious Extension professionals don't fully retire. Activities shared ranged from sewing for the Green Bay Packers uniforms to volunteering for non-profits. They shared being involved in a variety of educational type "jobs" which use their Extension skills.

Zoom attendees did a poll what they hoped to get out of this Zoom type of Life Member event. This will be shared with the Life Member Committee. Those on the Zoom were asked to share the skills they could bring to the association and also the best time for a mid-year Zoom Session in 2023.

The recording of this June 8 Zoom Meeting will be made available for all Life Members to access.

Meet the Board

Dianne Gertson (TX), NEAFCS Immediate Past President



Click the image above to view this message or visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DZ-9ibfjV8>.

History Takes Center Stage in Central Region

Cindy Thompson (IA), NEAFCS Central Region Director

Family and Consumer Sciences has a rich history of supporting children, families, individuals and communities, and that history has been the focus of two projects in the Central Region. Ohio NEAFCS member Patrice Powers-Barker will have an article in an upcoming Journal of Family & Consumer Science – a short reflection on the history, and future success, of FCS. Iowa NEAFCS member Mackenzie Johnson is spending the summer of her tenure as president leading a book study on *The Secret History of Home Economics* by Danielle Dreilinger. Twenty-one members have responded to questions posted online related to the role of FCS, racial inequity, gender inequity, lifting each other up, and Iowa State University history related to FCS. Book study participants meet in July over Zoom for a half-way point discussion and in August held a capstone event that featured NEAFCS history, including presentations from two national past presidents, Christine Kniep, and Donna Donald.



Western Region Update

Rick Griffiths (NM), NEAFCS Western Region Director

The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources and University of California Cooperative Extension has received a historic funding boost from their State Legislature and Governor. The funding will be used to build the capacity of California's Cooperative Extension Service across the state and in all program areas. Over the next year the state will be adding dozens of FCS "Advisors" in multiple specialty areas. For more information See:

<https://ucanr.edu/News/?routeName=newsstory&postnum=51832> and for job opening see: <https://ucanr.edu/About/Jobs/>.



Dear FCS Friends,

Calling all rising leaders in Family and Consumer Sciences! The annual AAFCS [Fall Leadership Workshop](#) is in person and will be held at the Hyatt Centric Arlington (VA) from September 30-October 2nd.



Registration is open! This is your opportunity to be shoulder-to-shoulder with professionals, students, young professionals, and DC policy and advocacy experts in comprehensive sessions you won't want to miss!

Members and non-members can register online using [MyAAFCS](#). Registration includes meals, breaks, meetings materials and access to the Workshop Library (MyAAFCS).

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! Professionals who register by August 15th will get the Early Bird rate (\$180)! Regular registration after August 15 for professionals is \$200 and \$40 for students.

Need To Know Info:

- The [Fall Leadership Workshop webpage](#) contains the schedule, registration, hotel reservation information and additional key dates!
- You can register in your MyAAFCS account. When your registration is complete, you will receive the automated confirmation email and receipt.

Please email [us](#) if you have questions that are not addressed in our [registration website](#). You can follow us on our [social media](#), too!

SANDRA ANDRADE | Associate Director – Conferences & Communications
American Assn. of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)

Additional News & Opportunities for NEAFCS Members

- [JCEP ELC Request for Proposals for Presentations](#)
- [JCEP PILD Request for Proposals for Presentations](#)
- [Home Baking Association August Back-to-School Calendar of Hacks and Hospitality](#)



Future issues of the NEAFCS Network will include recognition of members who have passed. If you would like to report the death of a NEAFCS member, [please click here](#).



[Lenore Rasmussen](#) (UT) - Lenore was part of the FCS Faculty in Iron County. She was a very talented and energetic professional.