

Historical Report

SUSAN ROUTH (OKLAHOMA)

Year: 2021 -2022

Annual Session President: 2022

Presidents Name: Susan Routh

Goals for the Year:

1. Conduct an “in-person” national meeting after the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Support the planning process for the team of North Carolina agents as they develop the program for the annual conference.
3. Promote the recruitment, retainment, and support of FCS Educators across the nation.
4. Participate in the Alliance for Family and Consumer Sciences’ FCS Day and AAFCS Conference.
5. Create a smooth transition of information between incoming and outgoing Board members.

List of Board Meetings:

Monthly Board meetings were hosted by Partners, the management company.

Post Board: Held in conjunction with the first Board meeting (3 hours in Zoom) on November 15, 2021

Mid-Winter Board – January 25-26, 2022, through Zoom.

Mid-Year Board Meeting – Held in person at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville (FL) Riverfront May 16-19, 2022. The board enjoyed hatchet throwing together.

Pre-Board – Held in person on September 11, 2022, at the Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, NC.

List of Leadership Workshops

February 8-9, 2022

Joint Council of Extension Professionals - Extension Leadership Conference (ELC), Kansas City, Missouri.

April 3-6, 2022

Joint Council of Extension Professionals Public Issue Leadership Development (PILD) Conference, Arlington, VA

June 25-27, 2022

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Conference, Orlando, FL

Annual Session

Date, Location, and Theme:

September 12-15, 2022, Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, NC

Theme - Take Flight Reach New Heights

Objectives:

- Explore innovative opportunities to engage local communities.
- Discover skills that strengthen personal and professional development.
- Connect with other professionals to create lasting partnerships.
- Re-Energize and have fun.

Preconference Workshops

“Take Your Program Impacts to New Heights”

Presenter: Dr. Claudette L. Smith

Onsite

“Get Connected to Local Foods”

Presenter: Annie Baggett

“Foundations of Flavor”

Presenter: Mark Weathington and Catherine Hill

Guest/Speakers

Jones Loflin, “How to Thrive as an Extension Agent”

Objectives:

- Identify three sources of professional and/or personal overload.
- Determine one new routine to add to their workday to increase their efficiency or effectiveness.
- Create three healthy boundaries they can use to protect time on their calendar.

Number of Attendees: 703

Membership as reported in the State of NEAFCS presentation.

Total Membership for 2022 –

Active Members – 1,724

Life Members – 1,124

Transition Members - 1

Student Members - 2

Partner Members - 6

Highlights

At the end of the 2021 Annual Session, I was virtually installed as the President of the organization. The Oklahoma state affiliate attended the session virtually from the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, Oklahoma. I had been installed as President in November 2021 and served for 10 months until the 2022 Annual Session in September. To support the President's Charity, members were encouraged to donate at least \$22 to the NEAFCS Endowment. The President's charity raised \$ 4,473 for the Endowment. The Service Project for the Annual Session was the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. Members were encouraged to donate money or bring items for donation to the session.

The 2022 Annual Session took place in Raleigh, North Carolina, marking the first time we met in person after the pandemic. At the Annual Business Meeting, voting delegates approved a new membership category for "Associate Members." This category is designed to allow Extension employees working in any capacity with family and consumer sciences with less than a bachelor's degree to become members of NEAFCS. This category replaced the previous categories of "Associate Members" and "Member in Transition."

Hall of Fame Inductees:

Cindy Schlenker-Davis, NM,

For the past 43 years, Cindy has worked in home economics. Specifically, she spent the last 16 years as the Family and Consumer Sciences Agent for Bernalillo County, located in New Mexico, which is home to the state's largest city, Albuquerque. Cindy has built an outstanding reputation for the quality of her programs, her vast knowledge, and her ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Her area of expertise is food preservation. Throughout her career, Cindy has been a passionate advocate for NEAFCS in New Mexico. She always encouraged new FCS Agents to join NEAFCS and participate nationally, as she believed that NEAFCS offers many more opportunities than the small state of New Mexico can provide. She advised them to join national committees for leadership opportunities and attend Annual Session for professional development. Cindy took it upon herself to mentor agents throughout New Mexico and her three nominators are a direct result of that.

A NEAFCS member since 2007, her many contributions are:

- Western Regional Director, 2012-14
- Distinguished Service Award, 2017 as well as several group awards
- National Member Resources Chair, 2018-2020
- Member of multiple national committees and Chair of the Exhibits and Membership Committees

- Two terms as NMEAFCS President, President Elect, Past President
- NMEAFCS Vice President of Member Resources and Professional Development

After many years of leadership as an FCS Agent, mentor, and dedicated NEAFCS member, Cindy deserves to be in the Hall of Fame.

Katherine Farrow, TX

Katherine Farrow is an exceptional leader and devoted Extension Professional who has dedicated over 40 years of her career to serving the citizens of San Patricio County through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Her positive influence, integrity, and extensive knowledge have made a significant impact on everyone she interacts with. Kathy has contributed her time and expertise to several professional organizations, including the District 11 Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the Texas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. She has held several elected offices at both the district and state levels, including serving as the TEAFCS President from 2008-2009. Kathy has won multiple distinguished awards, including the Distinguished Service Award in 2002 and the Continued Excellence Award in 2004.

Throughout her career, Kathy has demonstrated her unwavering commitment to her professional organization by undertaking various roles. She has also been a part of several National Committees, served as an Awards judge, and has helped to host two Annual Sessions in Texas. Kathy serves as a mentor to many new employees, encouraging them to be active at the District, State, and National levels. Her dedication to her family, county, profession, and NEAFCS is unparalleled, and she exemplifies her support for the mission and goals of the Land Grant University Extension System every day.

Awards and Recognition:

- In 2022, 522 applications from 38 affiliates were submitted and 380 advanced to regional/national judging.
- A total of 79 scholarships totaling \$19, 175 were awarded to National winners for Annual Session registration fee waivers.
- Seventy-two members volunteered to judge and 62 were randomly selected from all four regions.
- Award sponsors included:
 - NEAFCS Past Presidents sponsoring the New Professional Award
 - Purdue University sponsoring the Financial Management Award in Memory of Dean Don Felker
 - Joint Council of Extension professionals sponsoring the Innovation in Programming Award
 - Montana State University and HERA are sponsoring the Extension Housing Outreach Award.

Professional Development:

- Twenty-four (\$400) scholarships were provided to attend the Extension Leadership Conference (ELC) – JCEP in Kansas City, MO.

- Eighteen 1st Timer's (\$425) scholarships were provided to members to attend the Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) - JCEP Conference in Arlington, VA.
- Seventeen Educational Webinars were conducted for the membership.
- One hundred and sixteen proposals were submitted for the 2022 Annual Session Concurrent Sessions, Showcase of Excellence, and Ignite Sessions
- Seventy-three of the submissions were accepted:
 - Concurrent Sessions 57
 - Showcase of Excellence 16
 - Ignite Sessions (All posters received the opportunity to present an ignite session)

Friend of Extension: None were selected by the Board.

Annual Session Sponsors:

Champion Sponsors: Aramark: American Heart Association, the Ball Corporation

Advocate Sponsors: The Sugar Association, Alzheimer's Association

President's Reception Sponsor: Oklahoma State University

Quotes from my Acceptance of the Gavel Speech in 2021:

All of you are leaders. As Family and Consumer Sciences professionals, you are leading in your county, region, and state as an advocate for improving the lives of your clients and citizens in your area. I hope you view yourself as a leader since our profession needs more leaders like you. As I listened to the amazing impact of our national and regional award winners, leadership reverberated in these winners and their successes. In Kouzes and Posner's book, the Leadership Challenge, the authors state, "One of the greatest myths about leadership is that some have "it" and some don't. Another corollary myth is that if you don't have "it," you can't learn "it." "It" is defined as leadership or qualities of a leader. The authors also state that "nothing could be further from the empirical truth."

Obviously, these authors contend that leadership is a quality that CAN be learned with time, experience, and practice. Accepting the challenge each day to lead will continue to polish and improve this quality in each of us.

Now more than ever, the profession of family and consumer sciences needs leaders and advocates.

A few short years ago, NEAFCS members told the executive board through a survey that one of their biggest concerns is who will be the next generation of family and consumer science educators and specialists. The need to recruit and prepare FCS professionals is as critical today as then. With that in mind, advocacy for Family and Consumer Sciences has become my intentional purpose this year. How do we advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences? I believe that every time you or I conduct an FCS program in our counties or areas, we are advocating for our profession. As we continue to be frontline advocates, please remember tools and aids are continually being developed by the National Partnership for Recruiting, Preparing, and Supporting FCS Educators to help market and tell the story of family and consumer sciences.

I challenge you to peruse this website and develop a plan for how you can incorporate these resources into your programming.

As we conclude this time together, I encourage you to consider this quote by Jon Gordon: Expect to Win Today. Champions expect success. Their positive beliefs often lead to positive actions and outcomes. They win in their mind first. How can you lead like a champion in 2022 as a Family and Consumer Sciences professional? Mel Tucker, Michigan State University football coach, in a recent interview, told that he goes to each of his players and staff members each day and tells them to “just get a little bit better today” or he calls it “aggregation of marginal gains.” He doesn’t ask them to give 110% or set lofty goals. He just asks for a small increase in their efforts each day. From his mentor, Nick Saban, when coach Tucker was an assistant at the University of Alabama, he learned that asking players for small steps toward improving each day helped their team to see success quickly. How can each of us become just a little bit better each day as we advocate for our profession, recruit the next generation of FCS professionals, and educate our clients? I look forward to hearing about those successes.

Words cannot express how eagerly I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Raleigh next September. Thank you, North Carolina affiliate, for accepting this responsibility for our 2022 Annual Session.

The Michigan affiliate worked tirelessly to create an unforgettable Annual Session. Thank you, Michigan, for your planning and all that you did to make this Annual Session a virtual success.

Again, I thank you for this time to serve as your President. Thank you, Oklahoma, for your support. Dr. Damona Doye, Associate Vice President of OSU Extension and Dr. Gina Peek FCS Assistant Director, have pledged their support which I am truly grateful. I also thank Cindy Connor west district Extension Director and Kristy Spalding, Oklahoma affiliate President, for their continued support.

I now declare the 2021 Annual Session of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences adjourned.

Speech from Opening Session:

Hello NEAFCS Members! Welcome to the Annual Session of NEAFCS. Thank you for joining us to celebrate NEAFCS’ 89th Anniversary. On behalf of the NEAFCS Board, we are excited to be IN PERSON and in beautiful Raleigh, North Carolina. I want to challenge each of us to invest in ourselves professionally and personally this week as we learn from our colleagues and celebrate successful programs and impacts. Thank you to the North Carolina affiliate and the North Carolina Extension Administration for their support and planning for this year’s Annual Session. Thank you to Alyssa Anderson, Hayley Cowley, and Sydney Knowles for serving as the tri-liaisons to the Board on behalf of the North Carolina planning committees.

Submitted by:

Susan Routh