

# Minnesota

## Voices from the Past – Present – Future

Christine Kniep, NEAFCS Historian and the 90th Anniversary Committee

On June 29th, 1933, in Milwaukee, WI, during the annual meeting of the American Home Economics Association, The National Home Demonstration Agents' Association became a reality. Present were twenty-one home demonstration agents from 13 states: Alabama, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Vermont, Virginia and Wyoming.

The 90th Anniversary Committee has asked each of these 13 states to collect stories of their work and membership in NEAFCS from a retired or life member, the affiliate president and a “new” member – the start of an on-going narrative history of NEAFCS. Between now and our 100th Anniversary, stories will be collected from all of the affiliates. These stories will be included in our newsletter, posted on our website and included in our historical records.

It is with great pleasure I share stories from the Minnesota Affiliate, featuring:

Future – Megan Hruby

Present – Sara Croymans

Past – Colleen Gengler

## FUTURE:

"As a SNAP Ed Educator, I value the unique opportunity to belong to this professional association. It allows me to network with others within the Family and Consumer Sciences area, gain leadership experience, and showcase my work through award opportunities."

-Megan Hruby, Newer, 9 year member

## CURRENT:

"I am a member of NEAFCS because I value being part of a supportive community of family and consumer sciences professionals at both the local and national levels. Together, we are dedicated to making a positive impact on individuals and families. My role as an educator has been enriched through the relationships and networking opportunities provided by NEAFCS. I deeply appreciate the professional development resources, such as the Annual Session and webinars, as well as the generous exchange of research, curriculum, and resources among members. Additionally, I am grateful for the chance to contribute to the field and to support the growth and success of others in their careers."

-Sara Croymans, 27 year member

## **PAST:**

"NEAFCS provided opportunities for developing leadership skills and engaging with Extension staff I normally didn't work with or see because of distance or the programs I worked with. I was also able to attend national meetings to share what we did in Minnesota. NEAFCS really broadened how I worked in Extension!"

-Colleen Gengler, Life Member