



KAFCS News, Winter 2013

In This Issue:

United Assoc. Conf. Info.
Foundation Silent Auction
Foundation Event
Award Nominations Info.
AAFCS Highlights

Mark Your Calendars:

United Associations Conference

March 6-7, 2014
Wichita, Kansas

AAFCS Annual Conference

June 25-28, 2014
St. Louis, Missouri

Websites:

www.kafcs.org
www.aafcs.org

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President's Message

Solomon probably was the first to say it and The Byrds reminded us that "to everything there is a season." Change is inevitable and can be viewed as a challenge or an opportunity. With the recent proposal of transitioning the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences into an academy model (see <http://www.aafcs.org/FCSAcademy/index.asp>), we are being asked to embrace this opportunity for change in order to be able to "get the job done" in a more economical yet more impactful way i.e. an Academy of Family and Consumer Sciences that could leverage the sheer numbers of those who share the common vision of "applying research to improve the lives of individuals, families, and communities."

What can be rather frightening is that we are being asked to take a leap of faith for the potential of a really amazing concept. What happens if we choose not to leap? We can continue on as we have been since the early 1900's with declining membership and dwindling resources. Eventually, the proverbial well will run dry. If we decide as an association to make the transition now, while we are still viable, we have the verbal support of our sister organizations that they will join us in this endeavor. This strength in numbers could be used for a myriad of shared concerns. For example, with the issue of the FCS Teacher shortage, it wouldn't be AAFCS (membership of approximately 5,000) that is pressing for university programs to be supported, but rather the Academy of FCS with a membership of 500,000 that is making the case. If nutrition education should be a national priority through public school and adult education by highly qualified professionals, it would have more impact on your State representative or Senator to hear that hundreds of thousands of voters (The Academy of FCS) are supportive of this initiative rather than a few thousand (AAFCS.)

During the United Conference in March 2014, we will have additional opportunity to discuss the proposal in our KAFCS business meeting. Please make sure you have read the information provided through the link above regarding this proposal. It is anticipated, as of the writing of this article, that a vote of the affiliate senators will take place at the national conference in June 2014.

There are so many things we could accomplish as a group of professionals, "if only..." Perhaps this bold step is our opportunity to position ourselves to be able to make the positive differences in our society that we have only been able to dream about.

Many regards,

Carol Werhan



Save the Date

March 6- 7

By Cathy Mong

United Association
Conference will be
held in Wichita.

Network and grow
professionally while visiting vendors, attending
informative sessions, and staying in touch with
professional organizations. Registration opens
in January!



KAFCS Seeking Award Nominations

By Shirley Voran

Kansas Association Family Consumer Science professionals are recognized as "the comprehensive and integrative source of knowledge and the primary voice focusing on family, individual and community well-being." It is that time of the year to showcase the impact we are making in our communities and in our state. As a KAFCS member, you can nominate a fellow KAFCS member or team for various state awards. Being recognized for the great work in FCS you are doing can promote our profession to our supervisors, administrators, students, clients, and other stakeholders.

Many of these awards also qualify candidates for national recognition. The following awards are open for nominations:

- Distinguished Service Award
- Extension Award
- Friend of the Family Award
- Leaders Award
- Martha Streeter New Achievers Award
- Outstanding HS Student Scholarship
- Teacher of the Year

Link to award applications and guidelines:

<http://kafcs.org/awards>

Award applications are due **January 15**.
Submit materials electronically to **Shirley Voran** or mail hard copy on or before

January 15. Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one the many different awards made available through KAFCS. If you have questions, please drop a line or call!

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**PSU Students
at AAFCS in
Houston, TX**

Foundation Silent Auction at UAC

By Jan Stephens

Be prepared to shop for a special gift basket at UAC. Foundation members will be offering a selection of baskets at a Silent Auction during the Conference. Bidding will be available Thursday during exhibits and Friday morning. High bidders will be announced and may pick up their purchases at the Friday luncheon. This is an opportunity to support the work of the KAFCS Foundation toward scholarships and promotion, as well as obtain a gift for a friend or a treat for yourself.

Holden Attends AAFCS Leadership Academy

Janet Holden of Alta Vista, Kansas was one of 15 new American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) professionals chosen from across the U.S. to participate in the AAFCS 2013 Inaugural Leadership Academy, June 25-26, 2013, in Houston, Texas.

The launch of the Academy, which took place prior to the AAFCS 104th Annual Conference & Expo, is the beginning of a year of activities that will help prepare new AAFCS leaders for national leadership roles within AAFCS to

further its mission, "providing leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life."

Holden currently serves as the Kansas affiliate Webmaster, and was awarded with the 2007 Outstanding High School Student of Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences before attending Kansas State University to receive her Bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences Education. Holden is in her second year teaching FCS at Council Grove High School.



Jan Wissman 50 year AAFCS Member
Janet Holden- AAFCS Leadership Academy

KAFCS Foundation **By Jan Stephens**

The KAFCS Foundation was organized in 1987 to support and promote the Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (then Kansas Home Economics Association). The Foundation provides leadership in many activities of KAFCS, including marketing and fundraising. The Foundation also provides scholarships and help to attend AAFCS to college students.

Donations may be made to the non-profit 501 C (3) organization as a tax-deductible donation or to honor a FCS professional. Duane Whitbeck, treasurer, can accept donations or answer questions about donations.

REMEMBER TO VOTE

AAFCS National Elections 2014:
Members will be notified via e-mail when polls
open January 2014.

Director at Large (2014-2017) (1 position)

- 1. Duane Whitbeck, Pittsburg State University**
2. Melissa Wilmarth, University of Alabama

Nominating Committee Member-At-Large 2014-2016 (2 positions)

1. Jorge Atilas, Oklahoma State University
2. Loma Saboe-Wounded, South Dakota State University
3. Nancy Sampson, Bloomfield High School
- 4. Carol Werhan, Pittsburg State University**

Celebrate the Heartland **By Jan Stephens**

You are invited to join the KAFCS Foundation in celebrating successful family programs in Kansas. The Foundation Event to be held Thursday, March 6 will be an opportunity to network with professionals and students and hear a few of the many stories of FCS programs making a difference in our state.

Light refreshments will be served during this informal time following the last breakout session. Reservations are requested and may be made on your United Associations Conference registration form. Registration is \$15 donation to KAFCS Foundation.



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This newsletter is for members of the Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Photos and articles from and about members are welcome.

The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is a not—for—profit 501(c)(3) organization with 10,000 members dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families. AAFCS and its affiliates may accept charitable contributions, which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.