

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education, Inc. Newsletter

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## SEPTEMBER

- All CHARACTER COUNTS!<sup>®</sup> Essay & Artwork Contest - Fairness
- Collect 2016 Dues - Membership Drive
- National Literacy Month
- 1 **All County Associations' List of Officers and Committees for 2016 due to State President**
- 14 10:00 AM Maryland FCE Board Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office
- 20 – 23 CWC Meeting Tulsa, Oklahoma

## OCTOBER

- 5 10:00 AM Maryland FCE Board Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office
- 11 – 17 National FCE Week
- 13 - 14 MDFCE Annual Conference  
Comfort Inn Bowie, MD
- 15 Rural Women's Day
- 16 World Food Day
- 18 – 24 CHARACTER COUNTS!<sup>®</sup> Week

## NOVEMBER

- 1 **LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING**  
deadline for items to Editor  
**County Membership Dues to Martha Moser, Membership Chairman**
- 2 10:00 AM Maryland FCE Board Meeting, Montgomery County Extension Office.
- 22 – 28 National Family Week

## DECEMBER

- 1 State Dues/Membership Forms to NAFCE
- 7 10:00 AM Maryland FCE Board Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office
- 31 **Counties' Annual reports due to Vice President for Program;**  
**Membership Appreciation Award (SR 4a) due to Vice President for Program**

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## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

See driving directions on page 8.

## CHARACTER COUNTS!<sup>®</sup>

### Contest for 2015-2016

Fairness, the fourth pillar of character, is this year's focus. Contact your schools (county presidents have the information) and encourage them to participate in the FCE essay and artwork contest from September 1, 2015 to January 31, 2016. Send winning entries to the state president by March 1, 2016.

### MDFCE Web Site is [www.mdafce.org](http://www.mdafce.org)

Send new officer's list, newsletters, calendars and information to Libby Wade at [dunade@aol.com](mailto:dunade@aol.com).

### Newsletter Deadline: November 1

Send all articles, Bulletin Board items, address changes and trivia for the newsletter to: Jean Purich, 15500 Gallaudet Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20905-4196 or email at [jcpurich@cs.com](mailto:jcpurich@cs.com).



## FROM THE PRESIDENT The Wizarding World of FCE

Happy Fall! I hope everyone had a great summer. I certainly did with several pool parties with family and friends, and lots of activities with the grandsons.



Your MDAFCE

Board has been planning the Annual Conference to be held on October 13 - 14 at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, MD. We will have exciting informative programs including: Advanced Directives, Downsizing and Relocating, Popping Pills, Human Trafficking, and Computer Security. Please get your registrations in and consider inviting a friend.

On the National level, congratulations are in order for MDAFCE winners in the Essay & Artworks contest - 1st place (Margaret Burch from PG County); Maryland Marketing Brochure - 1st place (Barbara Perry); and T-shirt contest - 3rd place (Marie Moller). I want to thank all of our members who worked hard on these projects and encourage everyone to start thinking about next year's contests.

We will be electing three officers at the annual conference. Please consider running for: President-elect; Vice-President for Program; and Secretary. See you at the conference.

Libby Wade, President  
dunade@aol.com

301-831-8661

### Resource Development Committee Basket Sale

The Resource Development Committee is holding a basket sale at the state conference. A Yard Sale Basket (Carroll), Frederick County Wine (Frederick), Snack Attack (Anne Arundel) Leisure (Montgomery) and Magical Harvest (Prince George's) will be available for bids.



Thank you for your support!

Michelle Close, RDC Chairman

## NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC POLICY

The following laws have been signed by the Governor.

- The rain tax is not required but can be used by jurisdictions who want it.
- Hotels and other businesses must allow for direct dialing of 911.

### Other points under consideration

- Senator Claire McCaskill is working to get various supplements off the advertisements of big companies like Walmart, Target, Amazon and Google. She has sent letters to them to see how they decide to handle products of this type.
- Many supplements which claim to help patients with Alzheimer's disease offer products with names such as "Brain Awake", "Dementia Drops" and "Food for the Brain." Tests show some supplements contain none of the ingredients listed on the bottle. Supplements do not have to be registered by the FDA but products have to have a disclaimer that it has not been evaluated by the FDA.
- In addition to false claims for supplements, some companies are making claims concerning automobile insurance that appear to be suspicious. For example, there is an advertisement on the web that claims you can get your insurance reduced if you drive less than 50 miles per day and have not had a DUI in the past 2 years. These may include companies that are not well known or have a poor record of service to their customers.

Marilyn Simonds, VP for Public Policy

mjsimonds@verizon.net

301-871-1609

## Bulletin Board

Gene Crabtree passed away in May. She was a state president and along member of Anne Arundel County FCE.

Speedy recovery to Ed Purich, Montgomery County, who had knee replacement surgery and is recovering quite well.

Condolence to Waltraut Straggs, Carroll County, on the loss of her husband.

## **NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM**

Our organization was represented at the FCE National Conference in July. We are now working on the programs for our state meeting in October. We hope you are planning to attend. This is an opportunity to learn, to visit with old friends and take new programs back to your county. We have some very interesting topics and speakers. I will also introduce three new Hearth Fire pamphlets which I am sure will help you in planning for your programs. One topic which we all need to be aware of is "Advance Directives-Do I Want/Need Them?" I look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Evelyn M. Ziegler, VP for Program  
zieglers@comcast.net 410-465-3587

## **IN AND AROUND MARYLAND**

### **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

Fall is very quickly coming and our flower gardens that were so pretty in the summer are looking tired. Mums in fall colors that blend with the season are taking their place. And our Anne Arundel ladies are thinking about our various projects to be continued.

As we reported in the spring, were very fortunate to have received a \$5000 grant last winter from the Live Casino to help us with our charitable projects. The Casino gives grants to certain organizations within a three mile radius and we are fortunate that we met that requirement. Although that seemed like an awfully lot of money, we are pleased to say that we did not have any problem in spending the entire sum. Among those we helped are our county 4-H for their summer camp for kids. We also provided money for filled back packs for needy children for school this fall, and warm clothing at Christmas through the Christ Child Society. We purchased lots of fleece fabric for our ongoing sewing projects that include pillow cases for children at the hospital and baby mittens for newborns. Money was allotted for mailing "Coupons for Sailors" serving in Japan. Last but not least, we could be very generous with food

articles for our county food bank especially now that the demand for the needy has been high.

Now we look forward to getting back to work after our summer break. Upcoming meetings will find us working and learning. We will be putting together a basket for the State meeting. To keep us up to date or "what's old is new again" will be a lesson on Giant Foods' Pea Pod service. It is a service that lets you grocery shop via computer and have your groceries delivered to your home.

Another annual upcoming activity is a lesson whereby we will make a lovely little craft taught by our local artist Kathy Anthony. And that will get us going....

Judith Ammenheuser  
jammenheuser13@verizon.net 410-761-7437

### **CARROLL COUNTY**

On June 1<sup>st</sup> Carroll County hosted the State Board meeting which started at 10 AM. After the meeting, we folded and stamped the newsletter, readying it for mailing.

On June 8<sup>th</sup> we held our June meeting and Christina Johnson presented a program on Schemes. She talked about all the different scams that are out there, today, and ones to look for in the future. She also talked about how to decide if a phone call or an email was a scam. This will help our members not to fall victim to these actions. Our June meeting is our pizza lunch meeting. However, Pizza Hut no longer delivers pizzas, so Carroll Staggs, Waltraut's husband was our "delivery man!"

On July 2<sup>nd</sup> we took a bus trip to Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre in Lancaster, PA to see "Oklahoma"! The bus was full with 52 people on board. We had a great time. The food was good and the show was great with lots of old songs we all knew!!

However, on August 1<sup>st</sup> one of the saddest things happened for Carroll County FCE. Carroll Staggs, Waltraut's husband, died. Carroll brought Waltraut to all the meetings and he always helped unload the cars (and re-load them after the meetings). He also helped set up the room and was our pizza delivery guy in June!! Plus he helped Waltraut with all the CHARACTER COUNTS!® names and getting the information to the schools. He was there for the reading of all the stories,

pictures from the kids and he helped with reading all our scholarship applications from the graduation seniors. I have no idea how we will replace Carroll. He was like our “right hand man” helping with anything we needed!! He will surely be missed. If you would like to send Waltraut a card her address is – 53 Westmoreland St., Westminster, MD 21157

At our August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, Nancy McAllister and Linda Payne presented the program on “Do You Fear Public Speaking?” This was one of the programs taught at the state conference that was held here in Carroll County last October.

Elizabeth Heagy

## **FREDERICK COUNTY**

### Fall Activities Report

Frederick County FCE Homemakers Clubs will hold their Fall annual meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup> at the 4-H Center on Basford Road. The first part of the meeting will be a Board of Directors meeting, followed by a program by the Suzuki Violins. Attendees will be able to purchase donated items from the “Friendship Table” before and after the business meeting and program. Proceeds from the table will be used to support our future educational activities. A potluck meal will follow.

Most clubs have signed up to demonstrate various crafts at the Great Frederick Fair the week of September 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a children’s book give-away on Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup> this year, instead of Friday, since Frederick County schools are closed on Wednesday instead of Friday. A planning committee is in the process of determining the presentations for the Spring and Fall county meetings and the FCE Homemaker monthly lessons for next year.

Plans are already in the works for our holiday activity on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Johnsville Ruritan Club, “A Country Christmas in Johnsville”.

Donna Bowles

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

Montgomery County presented four booths at the Montgomery County Fair featuring

“FCE Blanket Making”, “Diabetes”, “Where is the Salt?”, and “Wipes in Your Pipes”. We distributed information about FCE, FCE programs, troop support and blanket making.

One member attended the National FCE Meeting in Blue Springs, Kansas. The meeting kicked off with introduction of the national board and the state presidents. Some of the topics of discussion were the trafficking of girls and boys, maternal health, team building, advance directives, maintaining volunteers and skittles parties (not the candy kind).

We are also getting ready for the Harvest Festival held at the Agricultural History Farm Park on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We sell handmade items to raise money for scholarships.

## **PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY**

Summer thoughts from Prince George’s County FCE member, Sharon Adamoyurka: Although I find September exciting — because I always feel like everything is starting fresh after the summer and at the beginning of the school year (even this many years later) — I’ve always thought that July is the sweet time in the year. June leads up to our hopes for summer, and lulls us with great weather in most places. But July is REALLY summer!! Although May and June can be a great time to travel, July is just the perfect month for a vacation, with great weather at the beach, in the country, or the mountains. It’s the best weather you’re going to get all year. July is when we want to be at the beach, go sailing, swimming, fishing, or lie in a hammock with a good book.

Tonight the 7 year old twins and their 3 year old sister, (3 of my grandchildren), learned how to freeze strawberries and why. They were a wonderfully big help and taught me how to hull a strawberry with a straw. Tomorrow they’ll be back along with my oldest grandson 10, to help Nanny can “bread and butter” pickles and make oatmeal-raisin cookies if we have time or maybe I’ll just whip some up for them while they are out swimming.

I couldn’t help but laugh when I sliced up some delicious fresh peaches for them, and they informed me they didn’t like them and preferred the fresh ones out of the can.

We’re in the process of making wonderfully “magical” favors for the state conference this year.

We are all keeping very busy, including our newest visitor, Frances, who we hope chooses to join our small group permanently, as she is just a sweet delight.

This fall, we will continue with our program list, which has been set aside to work on the state conference in October. Marie Moeller has worked on the detailed portion of the conference, establishing the venue, getting the contract items worked out, and keeping the rest of us focused and moving forward. If you can imagine someone “herding cats”, well you get the picture!! The process of working together, assigning the tasks, people to cover them, and the fellowship we have doing these things, really cements this “thing” we call a group.

Programs to be given in September will be the FCL Lesson - *Do You Fear Public Speaking?* - by our county vice president for programs-elect, Bridget Young, and Hearthfire #57 - *How to Stretch Your Food Budget* - by Barbara Marsh. Sue Van Slyke, our county president-elect, will present a program on “Parliamentary Procedures” in October. Thanksgiving and Christmas will rush in thereafter, with programs still to be determined.

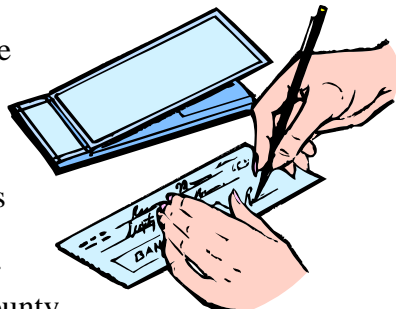
Prince George`s County looks forward to seeing many FCE members and their guests registered for this year`s conference. Please Come and Enjoy!!

Sharon Adamoyurka and Debra Rausch

“We ask justice, we ask equality, we ask that all the civil and political rights that belong to citizens of the United States, be guaranteed to us and our daughters forever.” – **Susan B. Anthony**

### **Do Not Delay – Pay Today!**

In September we return to scheduled activities and it is time to pay our FCE dues for 2016. All dues must be paid to club treasurers in September and forwarded to the county treasurers by October.



Every member is required to fill out a 2016 Membership Form which is printed in this newsletter. Please tear it out and using black ink type or clearly print all the information requested. **Do not use abbreviations.** Enter your 9 digit zip code and your E-mail address. Your “Current Member I.D. #” is printed on your FCE Membership Card.

Please note that in the dues box there is a Youth Category. It is for someone who is 17 or under whose parent is not a member but the young person wants to be a member of FCE.

In the dues box circle your membership status: individual, family, senior, or youth. Fill in the appropriate **dues for your county and your club** as they vary throughout the state. Total the column.

The last item – the Member Signature at the bottom of the page must be the signature of the individual named at the top of the page.

### **New Members**

Note the box above the Member Signature line. This should be checked by individuals who have never been affiliated with FCE. At the bottom of the page add “recruited by” and give the name and address of the member who introduced the new member to FCE. The recruiting member will receive a gold star pin from National FCE.

**SPECIAL PRIZE** – Each new member and the recruiter’s name will be placed in a drawing for full registration payment for the 2016 Maryland FCE Annual Conference. The more members you recruit – the more chances you will have to go to the meeting for free!

Thank you for taking the time to read through this article and for neatly and correctly filling out the 2016 Membership Form. Take the form and your check to your September meeting. If you will not be attending the meeting, please mail them to your county treasurer **now**. We need to have all of our Maryland FCE members accounted for by September 30! Please contact me, if you have any questions.

Martha Moser, Membership Chairman  
7436 Round Hill Road  
Frederick, MD 21702  
301-371-6132 or mcatmoser@aol.com

**National FCE Conference**  
Stepping Stones to Success!  
Adams Pointe Conference Center  
Blue Springs, MO  
July 23-26, 2015

The conference began with State President's Day. A breakfast was held for the state presidents, delegates, and board members, after which we boarded a bus for the World War One Museum. A guided tour was given to this most interesting facility. Then it was off to Crown Center where we had lunch and then walked across the street on a covered walkway to the Hallmark Visitor's Center. After touring this center, it was back on the bus for a return to the hotel for a president's meeting and practice for the opening ceremonies.

The official opening began with the introduction of the national board members, the state presidents and delegates. Judy Fullmer introduced the guest speaker for the evening, the founder of Veronica's Voice, Kristie Childs. After running away from an abusive home when she was 12, Kristie Childs was sex-trafficked and labeled a prostitute for more than 20 years. She finally managed to extricate herself from the commercial sex industry and is now helping other women and girls to escape.

After this, a reception was held during which we put together kits for Veronica's Voice, using the toiletry items, etc. contributed by attendees and members of their clubs.

Friday morning began with the business meeting in which 3 changes to the bylaws were voted on. The first was an amendment to Article V, Section 11B which read, "Pay authorized expenses of FCE upon written order from the president" and was changed to "Pay authorized expenses of FCE upon notification from the president by mail, fax, or e-mail." This allows the president and the treasurer to use the easiest method of communication with the technology of today. The next amendment was to remove all reference to "regions" in Article V and Article IX. The last amendment was to clarify the membership classifications in Article III Membership, Section 2. All these changes passed unanimously. This was followed by the Spirit of Kansas luncheon which featured a delicious barbecue and then we were entertained by Kansas City Young

Audiences, singing a medley of songs from "Annie".

The afternoon was devoted to Family and Community Leadership Day. Programs were given on Leadership: Team Building, Mentoring: "V" is for Very Valuable Volunteers, and Issue and Analysis: Popping Pills, Rx Drug Abuse.

Following an afternoon of learning, the awards dinner was held. Barbara Perry won first place in her category for the brochure on marketing Maryland FCE. Then the FCL participants made short presentations demonstrating what they had learned.

Saturday morning brought general sessions on ACWW, Stolen People, Stolen Dreams, and More on the Issue [human trafficking] and How You Can Help. The afternoon brought presentations of the new Hearth Fires: Advance Directives – Do I Need/Want Them?, Someone's Asking...What is Maternal Health?, and Hope on the Horizon – Finding, Recruiting, and Retaining New FCE Members. (This latter Hearth Fire urges each member to recruit one new member, thus helping the organization to double the membership).

The evening ended with the FCL Benefit dinner which included Neil Johnson portraying Harry Truman in a program entitled "The Human Truman".

Sunday began with a breakfast and an Inspiration/Memorial remembering those who have passed on. Next came a program on mules, followed by Lee Hufford singing golden oldies. Following lunch, more awards were given (Marie Moeller won 4<sup>th</sup> place in the tee shirt contest and Margaret Burch of Maryland placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the CHARACTER COUNTS!® Essay and Artwork contest) and the new officers were installed. Lynn Maples is the new NAFCE President. Next year's conference will be in Memphis, TN and to encourage us to attend, an Elvis Presley impersonator – one of the future stars – gyrated around the room. (Check the NAFCE Facebook page for the film.) On this note, the conference was closed.

Sue C. Van Slyke

Don't you want to part of all this fun next year? Plan to attend July 14 -17, 2016. See you in Memphis!



**2016 Membership Form**  
**\*\*\*Type or Print Clearly in ink\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Do Not Abbreviate City, County, Street or State Names\*\*\***  
 Revised 7/24/2016

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Current Member ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No \_\_\_\_\_ County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club County \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership: (Please list) Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent Child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Dues</b>	<b>Individual (18 – 79)</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Senior (80+ years)</b>	<b>Youth Under 18</b>
National	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$16.50	\$ 5.00
State	3.50	7.00	3.50	0
Council/County/Parish				
Club				
Total				

Sign and send with total membership dues to Club Treasurer by \_\_\_\_\_

New Member (Never belonged to FCE before)

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Must be original signature, copies will not be accepted

Mission...To strengthen individuals, families, and communities  
 through continuing education, developing leadership, and community action.

## Directions to Annual Conference

### Direction to Annual Conference Comfort Inn & Conference Center

Form the North, take Route 70 East, to 32 East, to 495 towards Annapolis. (Or take Route 70 east to 29 South, to 100 East to Route 97 Crain Highway and follow the rest of the directions) Exit on Route 50 East to 13A exit Crain Highway South. Make first right onto Harbor Way, then first right into developed parking area. From Montgomery County, take 198 East to 197 South to left on Mitchellville Road and then right on Harbour way and right into developed area. Hotel is at the intersection of Route 50 and Crain Highway (Route 301).

From the south, take Route 4 to Upper Marlboro, get on Route 4 north. Go 9.5 miles to Bowie. Stay on 301 in left lane past Baysox exit. Get in right of two left turn lanes at Harbor Way, (just before exit for route 50). After turning on Harbor way, take immediate right turn on Crain Hwy. Comfort Inn is at the end of the service road.



Maryland Association for  
Family and Community Education  
15500 Gallaudet Avenue  
Silver Spring Maryland 20905

