LOOK

FALL 2006

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education, Inc. Newsletter

SEPTEMBER

All Character Counts Essay and Artwork Collect 2007 Dues-Membership Drive National Literacy Month

1 All County Associations' List of Officers and Committees for 2007 should be sent to State President

11 10:00 AM Executive & Education Committee Meeting Anne Arundel Extension Office

20 Deadline for MDFCE Conference

27-30 ACWW Area Meeting hosted by CWC, Fort Wayne, IN

OCTOBER

2 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office

8-14 FCE Week

15 Rural Women Day

17-18 MD FCE Annual Conference, Best Western, Westminster, MD

NOVEMBER

1 **LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING** deadline for items to Editor **Membership Dues to Barbara Perry, Membership Chair**

6 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office

DECEMBER

1 State Dues and Membership Forms to NAFCE

4 10:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting Anne Arundel Extension Office

31 Counties' Annual reports due Vice President of Program; County Presidents' Reports due to President; Membership Appreciation Award due Vice President for Program

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MDFCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Don't forget to register for the Maryland FCE conference to be held at the Best Western in Westminster, MD on Oct 17th - 18th.

Character Counts Contest for 2006

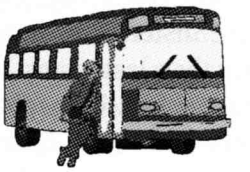
Trustworthiness, the first pillar of character, is this year's focus. Contact your schools and encourage them to participate in the FCE essay and artwork contest from September 1 to November 1, 2006. Winning entries should be sent to Judy Pugh by January 1, 2007.

MDFCE Web Site is www.mdafce.org

Send newsletters, calendars and information to Marie Moeller at mariemoeller@yahoo.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



Don't miss the bus,

FCE is on the move!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Still Green and Growing?

Greetings! I'm hoping you had a pleasant summer and were able to keep cool on some of those very hot days. After a couple of rainless weeks in August, Dave and I noticed our lawn was no longer GREEN AND GROWING. The good news of course is that the grass is only dormant and with some rain the grass will come back to life and once more be GREEN AND GROWING! People can be a little like grass--being somewhat "dormant" then coming back to life with some "rain" or nurturing. That's a very good reason to be a part of FCE--opportunities abound to keep us GREEN AND GROWING--opportunities for lifelong learning, travel and socialization--a chance to be with friends and meet new ones. How long has it been since you invited someone to visit your club or to become a member? Don't try to second-guess what their responses might be. Next time you see me just ask me what someone tried to second-guess my response would be to an opportunity that actually changed my career! An invitation might just bring that person out of "dormancy" so that she/he can be GREEN AND GROWING and not ripe and rotting! Perhaps you could pay your friend's membership fee for a year. Here is a plan for saving for you AND a friend to join Maryland FCE...let's call it the **FCE** plan or **F**ifteen **C**ents **E**veryday. Find a suitable bank or container and save 15 cents each day. You will have saved $54.75 each year which more than covers TWO national and state membership fees and probably your local club dues as well.

Speaking of dues you will notice an increase in the national dues this year. The increase was approved at the 2006 National Annual Conference in Nashville in order to pass a balanced budget. The bottom line is that the increase only reflects LESS THAN A PENNY A DAY for the year.

Please plan to attend our Maryland FCE Annual Conference, October 17 and 18, 2006 in Westminster. Our program promises to be even better than last year's. Things to look forward to include a family medical history program with Joanne Hamilton, Extension Educator-Carroll County, a visit from Francis Scott Key, a brand new highway safety program thanks to Elaine Crow PLUS lots of surprises including a new bracelet just for you! The business meeting, reports and awards will round out the conference. Again we will have three baskets to raffle: "Christmas," "Celebrate You," and "Apple Harvest," are the themes. Tickets will be available to our members. Also please bring or send NEW BOOKS FOR CHILDREN as part of the Family ChoicE-Media program, which is replacing the Tune Out Violence program. If you misplaced your conference registration form in the last newsletter one is available on our website or you can call me.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in October. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions, comments or concerns.

Judy Pugh, Maryland FCE President
fdjrpugh@aol.com or 410-398-4536

Annual Conference Highlights
Tuesday, October 17, 2006

9:00 AM Conference opens with keynote speaker Timmi Pierce, Executive Director, Historical Society of Carroll County: "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?"
10:45AM Business Meeting
Election of Officers
Noon Lunch
12:50 PM " Charting Your Family's Medical History " Joanne Hamilton, FCS Educator, Carroll County
1:50 PM Business Meeting Reconvenes
2:15 PM "Books, The Other Channel" Naeemah Raqib, FCS Educator, Anne Arundel County
2:45 PM "Concoctions in the Kitchen" Judy Pugh
3:30 PM County President's reports
4:30 PM Craft Workshop: "FCE Bracelets" with Evelyn Ziegler, FCE President-elect
6 PM Dinner and Entertainment (A Visit from Francis Scott Key)

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

7 AM Breakfast
8 AM "Branded D.U.I" Highway Safety Commission
9:45 AM "Membership" Judy Pugh, Barbara Perry
10:15 AM TBA
11:00 AM TBA
Noon Lunch
1:30 PM "Fantastic Woman" Carroll County FCE

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM

The FCE 70th Anniversary Celebration tuned in with "Rhythm of the Future" as the theme of the 2006 Annual Conference, Nashville, TN. Early on Friday, speaker, Madelyn Swift, reminded us of the messages we send and accountability connected with learned experiences in "Teach Your Children Well: Character Development and Integrity".

As the conference continued, more programs emphasized children and their education with "Is The Cyberhighway Friend or Foe?" and "Family ChoicE-Media". The introduction of "Coming to a Screen Near You", "Books, The Other Channel", instilled in children a love of reading, planning, planned routes on the Cyberhighway and the effect of video games on our children. More programs for children will be developed.

Angela Bates presented "Africa American Quilts and the Underground Railroad", the history of how African American Women designed and used quilts on the Underground Rail Road and "African American Women and their Church Hats", the evolution of hairstyles and the special church hats were included.

"Pearls and More Pearls", Bob Keast took us into the fresh water pearl saga by film at his "garden" of implanted mussels from the pristine waters of the Tennessee River.

One and one half hours FCL training in Teaching Techniques was awarded to attendees of "And the Winner Is" to learn what judges are looking for in a winning Program Award Book and what makes a winning Spirit of FCL entry.

Lastly, Kari Berit Gustafson brought us two related programs, "Embracing Your Aging Self" and "Mental Fitness: Creating a Health Club for Your Mind". Kari soothed our anxious minds, and explained the best health club you can belong to, which she addresses with humor, intelligence and insight – and without condescension. Her advice in managing stress is to keep physically and mentally fit, to entice loved ones to get out of his/her ruts, and to live life fully engaged.

Rusty Gardiner, Vice-Pres. For Programs
bmgardiner@olg.com or 301-475-3270

PUBLIC POLICY NOTES

Highlights of Federal Level Legislation

Interstate Abortion Bill Clears Senate. The Senate voted to make it a crime to take a pregnant minor to another state to obtain an abortion without her parents' knowledge. The senate vote was a victory for antiabortion activists who have tried in vain to overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide.

Gas Treatment of Meat

A bitter regulatory battle over the safety of a packaging system that can keep meat looking fresh long past it's shelf life is escalating. At issue is the growing practice of spiking sealed packages of meat with small doses of carbon monoxide. The gas is harmless at the concentrations being used, but it can keep the meat looking bright red even as it spoils.

GOP Bid on Wages, Estate Tax is Blocked

Senate Democrats blocked a Republican bid to combine a tax cut for the wealthy with a wage increase for the working poor, adding a volatile economic issue to this fall's congressional campaigns.

Immigration Debated

Republican leaders in the US House of Representatives are planning to hold an additional 19 hearings on immigration in 12 states across the country to garner support for strict border controls they say will help stop illegal immigration. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) and Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) are both sponsors of the hearings, which they hope will address concerns with the legislation passed by the US Senate that differs considerably from the bill approved by the House.

The Senate bill S 2611 allows some illegal immigrants to earn US citizenship, while the House version HR 4437 calls illegal immigration a felony and proposes stricter border security. The representatives are optimistic that negotiations with the Senate can begin soon in order to present a unified bill to President Bush before the November congressional elections.

Marie Moeller, Vice-Pres. For Public Policy
mariemoeller@yahoo.com or 301-292-2365

IN AND AROUND MARYLAND

ALLEGANY COUNTY

The Allegany County Fall Luncheon will be at Penn Alps Restaurant on Wednesday, October 25, 2006. The business meeting will begin at 10 am, from 11 am to noon there will be an auction, at noon everyone will order lunch from the menu. At 1 PM. the luncheon is over and everyone can tour the buildings and craft shop.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 4, 2006. We have to have a head count. My address is:
Connie Yates
19219 National Hwy. NW
Frostburg, MD 21532
cyates@hereintown.net

Directions: Located just east of Grantsville, Maryland on Alt. 40 (The Old National Pike). If traveling west on I-68, use exit 22, turn right, at stop light turn left, continuing west on US 40 about two miles. Penn Alps is on the right side of the road and has a large parking lot. There is a small state park next to Penn Alps with a nice shaded picnic area. If you enter Grantsville, you have gone too far. If traveling east on I-68, use Exit 19, turn left, then right in Grantsville on US 40 continue east about one mile.

Information about Penn Alps

Penn Alps Restaurant and Craft Shop are housed in the last log hospitality house on the National Pike still serving the traveler. It is situated between a 1797 gristmill and a historic stone arch bridge (the longest single span of stone in America when built in 1813). Three of its six dining rooms were once part of the log stagecoach stop, Little Crossings Inn.

Spruce Forest Artisan Village, a part of the extended Penn Alps campus, has grown from a few cabins to some 12 log and frame structures of early vintage, two of which date to the Revolutionary War Period. Most of these provide studio space for artisans. Artisans work in various media, including: bird carving, basket making, handloom weaving, and hand-thrown pottery.

Also produced in the village are stained glass art, hand-forged iron, hand-crafted teddy bears, and hand-crafted natural soaps.

Penn Alps website is www.pennalps.com.

CARROLL COUNTY

Following the August countywide meeting, members and friends enjoyed a picnic and ice cream social.

School supplies and books were collected and donated to Shepherd's Staff for the Back-to-School program.

Members are gearing up and getting in the mood to host the Maryland FCE Conference. We hope that you have sent in your registration form. All registrations are due by September 20. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Best Western, Westminster, on October 17 and 18.

FREDRICK COUNTY

Fredrick County FCE members continue to support the Head start program in Frederick County by providing both books and money for this project. Members also continue to make baby caps for the local hospital, lap robes for the nursing home and the Lewistown FCE Club continues to provide Bingo prizes and refreshments for the August Bingo at the Homewood Retirement Home in Frederick.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County has gone to the FAIR with 4 booths featuring The Linus Project, The "Eyes" Have It!, Water Conservation, and A Twist on Ribbon. We received 4 first place ribbons. We are hoping to increase not only our Linus Project participation but also our FCE membership.

Four members attended the National FCE meeting in Nashville. Ed and Jeanne Purich were part of the On-Site committee and were kept very busy.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Six FCE members attended the National FCE Conference in Nashville, Tenn. Two were first time attendees. All day City tours of the sights, historic landmarks, Grand Old Opry, meeting the National FCE Board, FCE Programs, Guest Speakers, Silent Auction and Comradeship were enjoyed by all who went.

Ten county FCE members attended a summer Pot Luck and won prizes playing Bingo. Rita Bastek is recovering from recent surgery.