

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education, Inc. Newsletter

DECEMBER

- 1 State Dues and Membership Forms to NAFCE
- 31 County's Annual reports due Vice President for Program; County Presidents' Reports due to President; Membership Appreciation Award due Vice President for Program

JANUARY

All Month

- Complete and mail all Annual Reports to state FCE by January 31
- 9 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office

FEBRUARY

All Month

- Birthday Month, Collect (1 cent for each year of your age or just give a dollar so no one will know) & send to State FCE Treasurer
- 1 LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING deadline for items to Editor
- 3-5 NAFCE Mid-Year Leadership Meeting Phoenix, Arizona
- 13 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office

MARCH

All Month

- Tune Out Violence Campaign
- Women's History Month
- 6 10:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting Anne Arundel County Extension Office
- 27 Deadline for Region II
- 31 Deadline for Heart of FCE, Spirit of FCL & Outstanding FCE Family Awards

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GET READY FOR THE REGIONAL MEETINGS

Don't forget to register for the Region I and Region II Meetings be held in April 2006. Details on page 4.

Character Counts Contest

Two counties were able to place the essay and artwork contest in their schools. The state winner will be chosen in January.

MDFCE Web Site is www.mdafce.org

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

Newsletter Deadline: February 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



Remembering the Family during this Holiday Season.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Happier 2006

During 2005 I've had an opportunity to research the topic of HAPPINESS as I updated one of my programs "The Road to Happiness." Results of research by Richard Davidson of the University of Wisconsin and others makes clear that happiness isn't just a vague, ineffable feeling; it's a physical state of the brain--one that you can induce deliberately. It appears that there are three components of happiness: pleasure, engagement, and meaning. PLEASURE, the "smiley-face" piece of happiness, is the least consequential yet Americans seem to build their lives around pursuing pleasure. The other two roads to happiness are much more important: ENGAGEMENT is the depth of involvement with one's family, work, romance, hobbies, etc. and MEANING involves using personal strengths to serve some larger cause. So what does that have to do with FCE? Our organization provides hundreds of opportunities for folks to become engaged or involved with family and community issues and allows us to use our personal strengths to serve a larger cause.

Have you ever heard people say, "If you want something done ask a busy person"? Perhaps this is because busy people know about the "road to happiness" and realize engagement and meaning are what really makes them happy and satisfied with their lives.

During our last FCE Board meeting we took some time to mention some things we are thankful for. In reflecting on our responses I realized everyone at the meeting is on the "road to happiness" through their involvement with family, friends and communities...and that is what FCE is all about! Join us as we travel down the road and invite others to travel with us.

Remember too that THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS is always UNDER CONSTRUCTION. Expect some detours and delays but it's worth the effort!

May you continue to be **GREEN AND GROWING in 2006.**

Judy Pugh
Maryland FCE President

Congratulations to our newly elected officers:

President Elect - Evelyn Ziegler
VP for Program - Marie Gardiner
Secretary - Helen Totura

We wish them great success and thanks for leadership.



MARYLAND QUILT

On November 2, twenty-five FCE members were received at the University of Maryland Chapel for the formal acceptance of our quilt. It was a lovely day and our 50th Anniversary Chapel Quilt looked quite regal hanging in the chapel on its new frame. Dr Wei, Dean of the School of Agriculture presented FCE president Judy Pugh with a certificate acknowledging our gift. The quilt will hang in the chapel on special occasions (Maryland Day and graduations, etc.) but will otherwise be kept in the archives under proper light, temperature and humidity conditions to maintain its condition. Thanks to Barbara Perry for orchestrating the new home for our quilt.

Bulletin Board

Georgetta Hercsuth (Allegany County) passed away after a pedestrian accident on September 30.

Betty Updyke (Prince George's) fell and shattered her left wrist. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Dottie Bucher (Montgomery County) is recovering from eye surgery.

NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM

The 2005 Maryland FCE Conference was held at the Holiday Inn, Laurel, Md. on Oct 19 and 20. The theme was "FCE is Green and Growing". This event was a full two days of education, visiting and sharing ideas, and entertainment.

Our keynote speaker was Mr. Steve Hannan, Administrator of the Office of Consumer Affairs of Howard County. He brought us up to date on the most recent scams and reminded us what to do and what not to do regarding our financial and personal information. Gangs and Gang Violence was another topic that was very current. Officer Luis Hurtado discussed this problem and gave us tips on personal safety. Dianne Miller presented the new improved Food Pyramid Guide.

The business meeting went well. The officers, chairmen, and county reports were very informative and gave insights into what our various groups are doing. The members had a hands on workshop and made a wallpaper angel. The evening program was "The History of Tea" presented by Valerie Peacock. It was very enlightening and we were able to sample an unusual type of tea.

Thursday brought the Calendar Girls. This was a very special program on women's health issues, things you can do each month, and different programs you can take to your county and clubs. The member presenters did an excellent job. Later, Sandy Corridon gave us some tasteful suggestions for "Gifts from the Kitchen". The conference closed with a program on "Wardrobe Choices". FCE members modeled the clothes and Madeleine Greene commented on the outfits while giving useful and interesting fashion tips. This was a very popular program.

We installed three new officers - President Elect - Evelyn Ziegler - Vice President for Program - Marie Gardiner - Secretary - Helen Totura.

It is my hope that all of you who attended this meeting will take this information home with you and share it with your local clubs, counties and communities and further promote the educational programs of FCE.

My sincere thanks to everyone involved in this meeting. And a special thank you to Sue Rittner for donating the angel heads.

Evelyn M. Ziegler, Vice President for Programs
410-465-3587

PUBLIC POLICY NOTES

The Maryland Legislature is in recess until January. If you have a particular area of interest that you would like me to follow, please contact me.

Marie Moeller, Vice-Pres. for Public Policy
301-292-2365

TREASURERER'S REPORT

Copies of the treasury report are available from Louise Ediger, treasurer
rlrediger@yahoo.com or 301-898-9945.

IN AND AROUND MARYLAND

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Presented a program in November on Estate Planning given by Joanne Hamilton, CE Educator. They held their Christmas Party at the home of Thelma Gore. Canned food was collected for NCEON.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County celebrated FCE week in October with a display of our Linus Project Blankets at Montgomery General Hospital. This was also in conjunction with helping the granddaughter of one of our members receive her Girl Scout Gold Award. FCE members and nonmembers sewed, crocheted and knitted blankets while talking to the public about FCE and the blanket project. We completed 836 blankets this year.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

A Christmas buffet luncheon will be held December 31. Officer updates will be done and a program on arthritis will be presented.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

REGION I APRIL 6, 2006 Cumberland, Maryland

Allegheny County FCE will host the Region I meeting on Thursday, April 6, 2006 at 10 AM. (Registration 9:30 AM) at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club Cumberland, Maryland.

Cost - \$13.00 Buffet lunch - 3 meats, 2 vegetables, 1 starch, tossed salad, roll, dessert, and tea or coffee.

Deadline for the reservation is Monday, March 27, 2006.

Make check payable to Allegheny FCE & send to:
Jane Wagner
501 Avirett Avenue
Cumberland, MD 21502

Directions:

Coming from the East:

From I-70 and 270, exit onto I-68 West at Hancock. After you pass Rocky Gap State Park take Exit 47 (Dehaven Road exit). This will bring you to Rt. 144 (Baltimore Pike). Make a left turn onto Baltimore Pike go a short distance, then make a left hand turn at the sign for the entrance to the Ali Ghan Shrine Club.

Coming from the West:

Take I-68 East. After you pass the vacant Mason's Barn Restaurant building and the Folick's Mill Motel (one mile east of Cumberland), take Exit 46 (Rt. 220 Bedford Road) off of I-68. Go to the stop sign and make a left hand turn. Go a short distance and you'll see the entrance sign (on the right) for the Ali Ghan Shrine Club. Turn right at the sign.



REGION II APRIL 20, 2006 Ellicott City, Maryland

Howard County FCE will host the Region II meeting on April 20, 2006. It will be held at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City, Maryland. Registration opens at 9:30 AM and the meeting starts at 10:00 AM. Coffee and donuts will be available.

Deadline for the reservation is April 1, 2006.

Make checks for \$15.00 payable to Howard County FCE and mail by April 1, 2006 to:
Evelyn Ziegler
9220 Dunloggin Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Directions:

From the South - Go north on Route 29. Exit West on MD Route 40. Get into far left lane. Turn left at first light, St. John's Lane. Turn right at first light, Frederick Road. Turn left just past top of first hill at Chatham Road. Church is immediately on the right.

From the West - Take Route 70 East. Exit at Route 40 Ellicott City. Follow Route 40 to intersection of Frederick Road and Pine Orchard Lane (Just past Clark's Ace Hardware). Turn right. Follow Frederick Road past the library and Senior Center. Turn right onto Chatham Road. Church is on your immediate right.

From the East - Take Route 100 West towards Ellicott City. Exit at Long Gate Parkway. Turn right. Go to second light. Turn left onto Route 103, Montgomery Road. You will cross back over Route 29. Follow road to dead end, which is St. John's Lane. Turn right on St. John's Lane. Follow St. John's Lane to first light, Frederick Road. Turn left and go to Chatham Road. Turn left. Church is on immediate right.

**67th Annual Meeting of Country Women's
Council of USA (CWC)
Scottsdale, Arizona, September 22-24, 2005**

First I would like to review that the objective of the Country Women's Council (CWC) is to unite the USA societies affiliated with the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) into a cooperative working organization with ACWW. It meets annually to provide a means of discussion, consultation, information and support for concerns and activities of ACWW.

CWC or individual societies may promote recommendations or resolutions to be considered at an ACWW Triennial Meeting. A resolution passed at the ACWW Triennial is expected to be actively supported in some means by all affiliated societies during the next three years. A passed recommendation suggests active support by affiliated societies.

There are area ACWW presidents throughout the world who keep societies informed with information to be communicated to all members. Kay Engelhart, USA Area President's email is kengelhart@hotmail.com.

Following the opening of this CWC Meeting, choosing a meeting location for the 2010 ACWW Triennial Conference to be held in the USA commenced. The three locations presented that met ACWW requirements were Hot Springs, AK, Louisville, KY or Grand Rapids, MI. After detailed presentations and a ballot vote of the delegates Hot Springs, AK was chosen. Possible dates are April 20-28 or August 29-September 6.

Two programs available for presentation that might be good for us to use and promote are:

1. "Ag in a Classroom" is in every state with curriculum materials and teacher training. The program addresses population growth, maintaining ecology and environment, feeding the world, need for water conservation and dealing with pesticides and disease. www.agclassroom.org - then, "Ag in a Classroom"
2. "Bringing Technology to Life" video and teacher's guide program shows how living organisms create or improve our agricultural products. Little that we produce is "natural".

Time was set-aside for the national societies to meet. There were five national societies until last year when National FCE decided to withdraw (because CWC doesn't provide insurance for members). This left the individual groups (Maryland FCE), which were under the national "umbrella", to decide where they belong. They became classified as the "affiliates". (There are 19 affiliates.) The question was how could they fit into the picture and have input on the CWC Board according to the present bylaws. They decided not to form a national umbrella organization (with bylaws to be approved by ACWW) but to recommend to the CWC Board that the "affiliates" be recognized as a group with representation on the CWC Board with officer positions being filled by rotation.

Val Tarrant, Chairman of ACWW Projects, told of various project requests. She reviewed the extensive project review process. There are 11 pages of detailed information requested for each project. An accepted project is funded 80% by ACWW and 20% by the applicant. Accepted projects receive 75% of funding granted and the remaining 25% upon satisfactory progress or completion.

Some work of ACWW is done through resolutions and recommendations passed at ACWW triennial conferences. These resolutions and recommendations are introduced by member affiliates. We had a workshop explaining the proper way to compose a resolution.

Rita DeVilliers, South Africa shared her B&B business called "Crafters and Slimmers Retreat" (five days of dieting and making crafts).

The importance of Pennies for Friendship was reviewed. The United States could be more generous with its donations. Remember to collect pennies at club meetings. There are various special funds as Water for All and Feed the World. The ACWW Project Committee could support so many more worthwhile projects if it had a bigger budget. It was noted what an impact it would be if every member in the USA gave a dollar to the Projects Committee. **Could we do it in Maryland?**

CWC new web site is www.cwcusa.org
A new CWC brochure will be on the web site.

The next ACWW Triennial Conference will be in Turku, Finland, June 2-9, 2007
Reported by Barbara Perry, Maryland FCE