

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education, Inc. Newsletter

DECEMBER

- 1 State Dues and Membership Forms to NAFCE
- 4 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office
- 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
- 8 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
- 5 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel County Extension Office

MARCH

- All Month Women's History Month
- 5 10:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting Anne Arundel County Extension Office
- 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 to be held in April 2007. Details on page 3.

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 to jcpurich@cs.com



Remember the Reason for the Season.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

EVERGREEN

According to "The Green Man," from the Department of Environmental Protection in Montgomery County, the most significant decorative plants we associate with the holidays are the leaves and boughs of evergreens. In earlier times as winter approached, the world that had been GREEN AND GROWING, became cold, dark, barren and seemingly lifeless. To counteract the chilled earth, people began to decorate their homes with cut branches of evergreens as symbols of undying life. The evergreen wreaths we use today represent the cyclical nature of time and changing seasons.

Whatever your traditions may be, each time you enjoy the season's evergreens remember they are symbolic of everlasting life. Remember, too, that spring is in the near future when the world will be once more GREEN AND GROWING. Enjoy the winter, enjoy the evergreens in your home, and continue throughout the years to be GREEN AND GROWING with FCE...be EVER-GREEN!

The last two years have been challenging, fun and educational thanks to all of you. And a very special thanks goes to the Maryland FCE board members and county leaders. Thank you for your support and friendship. Of course our organization is GREEN AND GROWING and under the leadership of Evelyn Ziegler we will continue---we are EVERGREEN!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

Congratulations to our newly elected/appointed officers:

President - Evelyn Ziegler
VP for Program - Judy Pugh
VP for Public Policy - Marie Moeller
Treasurer - Louise Ediger
We wish them great success and thanks for their leadership.



FROM THE 2007 PRESIDENT

Having recently returned from our annual conference in Westminster, Md., I realize how very important our FCE organization is to all of us. We learned, we shared, and we were entertained. Old friends reunited and new friendships were formed.

It was so refreshing to see and welcome some new faces at this conference.

Many of the members of the state board and Carroll County worked very hard to bring these programs to you in the hope that you would return to your counties and share this information with your clubs.

The enthusiasm displayed warmed my heart and increased my resolve to do all I can to work hard in the coming two years so that we can continue to move forward with FCE.

We are near the close of another successful year for our organization and we have all benefited from the various educational programs.

I hope you have a holy, healthy, and happy holiday season.

My Prayer for you this Christmas: (Clay Harrison)

My prayer for you this Christmas

Is that you each may find

This season filled with blessings

That bring you peace of mind

May glad tidings bless and keep you

Safe from all you fear

As you celebrate His Birthday

And enter the New Year!

I look forward to seeing you at many of our activities coming up in the New Year.

Evelyn M. Ziegler
410-465-3587 or email zieglers@comcast.net

PUBLIC POLICY NOTES

Several New Hearth Fire Series were introduced at the recent FCE State Conference at Westminster, MD. Professor Media made her debut. Marilyn Simonds (Professor Media) and I led a program on FCL Training - "Video Games! Coming to a Screen Near You". Family ChoiceE Media (was Family ChoiceE-TV) now includes books, video and computer games, the internet,

magazines, films and music. This is a multi-year project (see article below).

Let's as MDAFCE members work together to eliminate Violent Video and Computer Games. Write or email your delegates. Use www.getnetwise.org to learn about online/internet safety and web sites for kids. Educate parents, grandparents, relatives and your community on this issue that presents grave danger to children.

Just a reminder for counties to send me the names of current members who have done 30 hours of FCL Training and/or 60 hours of applied leadership skills by 12/1/06. See your National FCE member handbook on the procedure. You may email or call me with any questions.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Books-The Other Channel

Join with all the Maryland FCE members and help children to learn that the most wonderful channel of all isn't even on TV! Parents, grandparents and kids can rediscover books with our help. Collect new books for children at your club and county events, label them as a gift from FCE and distribute them to children in YOUR county through the organization or agency of your choice--hospitals, Head Start, Social Services, etc.

This project is a part of the National FCE initiative and Maryland will be submitting our successes for a National FCE Award. But we can't do it without you! So please start the project right away and plan to send us your results in March 2007. We will be contacting you to find out how many children's' books you collected and labeled and to whom and how did you distribute them.



Labels can be computer generated and should have the following information:

From (Name of County) FCE

www.mdafce.org

Ask your club president for a copy of "Books-The Other Channel" Hearth Fire to learn more about children and reading. Please contact Judy Pugh, 242 East Main Street, Elkton, MD 21921 or call 410 398 4536 or email fdjrpugh@aol.com for additional information.

IN AND AROUND MARYLAND

ALLEGHANY COUNTY

Our county Women's Commission had a reception to honor the women vets in our area on Saturday, November 4. We had 29 present and they were all thrilled to be recognized at long last. The 29 represented all the services and ranged from WW II to the present.

A lady from the MD Dept. of Veteran's Affairs came and brought several gifts for the ladies. Beverly Byron spoke and we had certificates from the county and state for each woman. A small buffet served. Next we laid a wreath at a monument in town in honor of the women vets.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Anne Arundel County FCE members held a Christmas party on December 1 at the home of Thelma Gore. Everyone brought a book for the statewide book drive.

FREDERICK COUNTY

Frederick County held the Fall meeting at the Frederick County 4-H Camp Center, Inc. There was a nice attendance and all enjoyed exercising their brains on how much and how little they knew about our system of government. The new Hearth Fire program "Someone's in the USA Court(ing) the Judicial System " was very enlightening to the group. The Lewistown Club is busy preparing to host the annual county Christmas event on December 2 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Utica. The countywide membership participates in this annual event.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Eighteen members of Montgomery County FCE went to the Annual Conference in Westminster. We learned of new FCL programs that MC will present in the coming year.

In September we completed our fifth year of the Linus Project. A total of 1317 blankets were completed this year with a five-year total of 3251.

A two-day Fall Festival was held at the Extension Office where crafts and baked goods were sold, and kids games were played. Money made will help support 2 scholarships at Montgomery College. We gave over 300 books to children that attended the festival.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Prince George's County had 5 members attend the State FCE Conference in Westminster, MD. They did a "kickoff" invitation for the 2007 Conference to be held October 16 & 17, 2007 at the Holiday Inn, Laurel, MD.

Adelphi Club will hold a Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon on Dec 20 at 11 AM at the Cora Wood Recreation Center, Brentwood, MD. The County Xmas Pot Luck Luncheon will be held on Dec 12 at 11 AM at the P.G. Extension Office, Clinton, MD.

Bulletin Board

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond (Louise) Ediger, both Frederick County FCE members, were honored by Governor Robert Ehrlich on Thursday, November 2, in Baltimore by receiving the Maryland You Are Beautiful Award. The Edigers represented Frederick County after being selected in September for Frederick County's You Are Beautiful Award. They were selected for their outstanding volunteer work in their community, church, 4-H and several organizations.

Frances McDaniel, a long time active member of PG FCE passed away at age 96.

We wish a speedy recovery to Loretta Kane from Montgomery County who is recovering from a fall and surgery.

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS

We are nearing the end of 2006 when FCE Counties gather information to complete their Program of Work reports for the past year.

According to Article IV, the Maryland Board consists of the Executive Committee, the Education Committee, and Standing Committee Chairperson. Several duties are as follows:

- A. Develop plans for achieving the objectives of FCE, and
- B. Plan annual conference and educational seminars.

Article VII The Executive Committee...Shall consist of the President, Pres. Elect, the Vice Pres. for Program, the Vice Pres. for Public Policy, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall constitute the "Directors" of the corporation. Several duties of the corporate members are to:

- A. Transact any business of MAFCE rising between annual conferences and act in all emergencies.
- C. Develop the policies of MAFCE subject to approval of the voting delegates.
- D. Fill board vacancies.
- E. Serve as advisory board to the Education and Standing Committees.

Article XI Meetings-Section I: Meetings Maryland FCE shall meet annually to elect officers, adopt a budget, conduct business, present educational programs and transact business that may properly come before it.

A. Members Associations shall be notified of the Annual Meeting at least 90 days prior to the meeting.

B. The voting delegates at the Annual Conference shall be the Board and Presidents of Member Associations in good standing or their certified alternates.

C. The majority of the certified voting delegates shall constitute a quorum.

Article XV Amendment of Bylaws

The bylaws shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present at the annual conference business session provided that written notice has been given to the voting delegates at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

The Bylaws and Standing Rules are studied each two years and any changes are made then. Referring to these documents for guidance

in policy and using the Standing Rules forms, especially during this time when the yearly reports are due, can clear up many questions you may have. The NAFCE 2006 Member Handbook indicates what information will be used by Maryland to qualify for the several awards given out each year. This is a competitive exercise with each of the other state members and we will appreciate all the good information you can provide. Godspeed

B. Marie Gardiner
Vice President of Program

REGIONAL MEETINGS

REGION I APRIL 24, 2007 Westminster, Maryland

Carroll County FCE will host the Region I meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at 10 AM. (Registration 9:30 AM) at the Carroll County Extension Office Westminster, Maryland.

Cost - \$12.00 Buffet lunch.

Deadline for the reservation is April 1, 2007.

Make check payable to Carroll County FCE & send to:

Ruth Shipley, Treasurer
3304 Sykesville Road
Westminster, MD 21157
410-549-7955.

Directions:

Directions to Carroll County Extension Office Westminster, Maryland

From Baltimore Beltway 695, take 795 to 140 north towards Westminster. Follow 140 to left on Center Street (stay on Center Street straight across Westminster), after passing the Carroll Hospital Center entrance, turn right at stop sign onto Gist Road, go to next stop sign and turn right onto Smith Avenue. Smith Avenue dead-ends in the Extension Office parking lot.

From points east, take Route 32 west, (or Route 97 north to Route 32 west) turn left on

Smith Avenue; Smith Avenue dead-ends in the Extension Office parking lot

From Western Maryland travel on 1-70 to the Mt Airy/Route 27 Exit. Proceed north towards Westminster on Route 27 for about 15 miles. Turn right onto Kate Wagner Road (traffic light). Follow Kate Wagner Road to left onto Gist Road for about 1/2 mile and turn left onto Smith Avenue. Smith Avenue dead-ends in the Extension parking lot.

REGION II APRIL 17, 2007 Derwood, Maryland

Montgomery County FCE will host the Region II meeting on April 17, 2007. It will be held at the Montgomery County Extension Office, 14810 Muncaster Road, Derwood, Maryland. Registration opens at 9:30 AM and the meeting starts at 10:00 AM.

Deadline for the reservation is April 1, 2007.

Make checks for \$15.00 payable to Montgomery County FCE and mail by April 1, 2007 to:
Marilyn Simonds
13708 Lionel Lane, Rockville, MD 20853
(301-871-1609) mjsimonds@verizon.net

Directions:

From the South – Take 95 north to Route 198 west. Route 198 changes numbers/name to Route 28-Norwood road. After crossing over Route 97-Georgia Avenue, turn right on Muncaster Mill Road. Approximately 5 miles turn right onto Muncaster Road. Turn left into The Agricultural Historic Farm Park. The Extension Office is located at the top of the hill.

From the West - Take Route 70 East. Exit at Route 97 Olney. Follow Route 97 south to intersection of Route 108, turn right onto 108 west. Continue approx 5 miles to Muncaster Road, turn left, then turn right into The Agricultural Historic Farm Park. The Extension Office is located at the top of the hill.

ACWW Related Activities

The 268 members of the Maryland Association for Family and Community Education (Maryland FCE) support the mission and programs of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). To gain knowledge of customs and cultures each of our counties has a yearly international program focusing on a particular country. Often the leader of the program is a native of the chosen country that gives first hand knowledge and insight. This past year we contributed \$323.37 to Pennies for Friendship and sent 80 pounds of yarn to Romania. In concurrence with ACWW past resolutions, literacy and leadership programs are supported in various ways including programs with 4-H international exchange students. At least five of our members host international students in their home for a year or part of a year annually. Many of our members are very involved in Character Counts programs in their communities and family members have gone to Mexico to help to construct schools. Books have been provided for people of all ages in English and Spanish. Members have knitted or crocheted 2862 blankets for sick and traumatized children, 56 hats for premature babies and 86 hats for cancer patients. We have at least three members who have ACWW Letter Friends. We have members and family members who have traveled to aid stricken Katrina victims.

Barbara Perry

**68th Annual Meeting of Country Women's
Council of USA (CWC) and
USA Area Meeting of Associated Country
Women of the World (ACWW)
Fort Wayne, Indiana, September 29-30, 2006**

Theme: Working with Women Worldwide

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) is the largest international organization of rural women and homemakers representing over 9 million members in over 70 countries worldwide. It aims to improve the standard and quality of life for its members, their

families and communities, who are mainly dependent on agriculture for a living. ACWW is headquartered in London, England. The Country Women's Council USA (CWC) is designed to carry out the programs and projects of ACWW.

The two-day meeting began with an address by the ACWW World President, Dato Ursula Goh of Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia entitled "We Share a Dream". She emphasized how our pioneer sister's dreams inspired the development of ACWW which was officially established with a vision and a mission in 1936 and has become a global grouping of women in the United Nations (UN). There has always been positive work for change with small incomes to better education, diet, water, small businesses and meeting natural disasters.

The business meeting followed with concern about finances and member societies were asked to pay for transportation, housing, etc. if CWC leaders are invited to attend state meetings. The Articles of Agreement (bylaws) had been reviewed and recommendations were presented. It was passed to have the Affiliated Societies (which we are since National FCE dropped out) fill the empty rotating officer position on the board. The Affiliates comprise 1/3 of the membership of CWC. The next empty slot will be for treasurer and the Affiliates have a well-qualified candidate. Also, it was voted to eliminate annual meetings for CWC and just have two between the ACWW Triennial Conferences. Presently CWC retains 15% of Pennies for Friendship from our societies and that will end, 100% will go to ACWW. It was suggested that if you would like to have a Letter Friend that you not ask for a particular country, but take 'pot luck'. Information was available for programs and action on Human Trafficking.

Helen Norris, Kansas Farm Bureau Women, told of her experiences spending six weeks in Bangkok, Thailand doing a program called "Let's Start Talking". Most of the population is either Buddhist or Muslim and she helped them to learn English by reading Luke in the Bible. As part of the learning experience individuals of different cultures got to know and appreciate each other.

Kay Engelhart, US Area President for ACWW, led a panel discussion explaining how the ACWW Board of 16 members works through

committees. Ursula Goh related the need to help orphans around the world and that the threat of terrorism has not affected the work of ACWW. She shared some of the projects funded by the special ACWW Tsunami fund, which closes this December. Assistance was requested on an individual basis from ACWW member societies. In Sri Lanka there were diverse projects that revolved around lace makers and rope makers. Also, young girls were taught tailoring, food processing and crafts. In India fishing nets, fishing boats, books and uniforms for school children, skill training for women, composting, electrical and plumbing help and services for orphanages were given. In Indonesia a widow with six children had sold food along the road and needed cooking utensils to make noodle soup again. Another individual needed money for seeds and tools to grow vegetables to sell.

Currently ACWW individual memberships are \$30/year or \$75/three years. It was noted to celebrate World Rural Women's Day annually on October 15.

The proper way to present a resolution (if passed, must be acted on) or a recommendation (if passed, consider acting on) at a triennial conference was discussed and the following topics are on the agenda for the Turku conference in June. Global problems are local problems.

Resolution I - Focus on Women Entrepreneurs

II - A Sustainable Future for Environmental Change

III - Water and Poverty

IV - Energy for the Future

V - Obesity Awareness

VI - UN Declaration for Millennium Development Goals

Recommendation I - Fight Against Type 2 Diabetes

II - Women's Role in Decision Making

Programs were also presented on Beginners Guide to Grant Writing, Fall Gardening, Making Plans to go to Finland, Searching for Your Ancestors and a Clean Community Challenge which forms an environmental management system with input between business, government and citizens.

The meeting had its entertaining side too. The Indiana Extension Homemakers Association has 28 county choruses and three of them

performed together for our luncheon. There was a wonderful violin concert by five siblings of a 4-H home schooled family and age was put to shame with the dance performance of the "Alley Cats", a women's senior citizens group. Ursula Goh had the audience in stitches as she shared her experiences on her travels around the world on ACWW business.

The next ACWW Triennial Conference will be in Turku, Finland, June 2-9, 2007

The next CWC Meeting will be in Springfield, Illinois, September 26-29
at the Rt.6 Hotel and Convention Center,
www.rt66hotel.com

Barbara Perry

Maryland FCE Delegate to 68th USA Area Meeting of ACWW

Remember Fifteen Cents Everyday ~

Many thanks to the county treasurers who all met the deadline for turning in membership forms and dues this year. Fantastic! Our total count is 255 members (160 individual, 67 senior, 14 family).

We have thirteen new members in Montgomery (6), Frederick (2), Carroll (2), Allegany (1), Anne Arundel (1), and Prince George's (1). Congratulations! These names and any others we get during the year will be placed in a drawing for a free registration to the annual conference in October.

Have you made your blue bank and are you saving **Fifteen Cents Everyday** so your dues and dues for a new member will be ready for next fall? At the annual conference, every county received the materials to make these banks. Just think we could have over 500 members in 2008!

Don't forget to collect ACWW Pennies for Friendship every month and Birthday Money in February - our totals collected are down this year.

We regret that St. Mary's County is no longer affiliated with FCE. St. Mary's FCE has always provided great leadership for the county and state. Some members will join Anne Arundel County FCE. Maryland FCE now consists of nine counties.

Barbara Perry, Membership Chairman

Pucker Up for Pecans (Pie)

Prep time: 15 min. Baking time: 60 min.

Decoration time: 10 min. Difficulty: Easy

What you'll need:

- 1 bag MILKY WAY® Brand MINIS®
- 1 bag DOVE® Brand Rich Dark

Chocolate

- 1 piecrust (9-inch unbaked pre-rolled)
- 3/4 cup lightly packed brown sugar
- 3/4 cup light corn syrup
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 2 large eggs
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups pecan halves
- 1 cup whipped cream
- 1 9-inch tart pan with removable bottom
- Aluminum foil & cookie sheet pan

What to do:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Unroll the piecrust onto a lightly floured surface and fit into the tart pan. Press the dough into the bottom and turn up sides, trimming the excess dough. Cover the dough with a sheet of foil.

2. Bake for approximately 12 minutes, or until just golden. Remove the foil and continue baking for 3 minutes or until just beginning to golden. Remove from the oven, transfer to a cookie sheet and set on a wire rack to cool.
3. Reserve 20 pecan halves for decoration. Roughly chop remaining pecans and combine with brown sugar, corn syrup, butter, eggs and salt. Chop 1 1/2 cups MILKY WAY® Brand MINIS® and add to the mixture. Pour into the slightly cooled tart pan, return to the oven and bake for 35-45 minutes, or until bubbly and golden brown. Remove from the oven, transfer to a wire rack and cool completely.
4. Melt 10 DOVE® Brand Rich Dark Chocolate pieces in a microwave for 40 seconds. Remove and stir until smooth. Spread a chocolate circle in the center of the tart. Place one MILKY WAY® Brand MINIS® in the center of the tart and arrange the reserved pecan halves around the chocolate circle. Serve with whipped cream.

Makes 8 servings.

**Maryland Association for
Family & Community Education
15500 Gallaudet Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20905**