

fce. TODAY

The Official Publication of the National Association for Family & Community Education

Greetings from the National FCE Board, we have just finished a very productive board meeting and we are all enthused about the plans that were made. The 2011 Conference in Denver was planned ~ there is a preview in this issue. We will be celebrating 75 years of FCE ~ that is exciting! The registration forms will be in the next issue coming soon! We selected the hotel and dates for the 2012 Conference to be held in Northern Kentucky with the theme ~ Coming Together, Working Together, Growing Together. And we chose Fargo, North Dakota as the site for the 2013 Conference.

The board continues to look at budget items in order to save money. Because of decisions made earlier ~ not to spend money for speakers for the 2010 conference, to reduce mileage to .25 cents, for board members to pay \$100 toward conference registration ~ these decisions (and others) have made a difference. For the first time in many years (as of fall board), we have not had to take money out of savings in order to meet our budget~ hopefully we can finish the year without that happening. And because at the 2009 Conference in Portland, the delegates voted a dues increase to take effect for 2011, we hope to see an easing of the financial problems. Although in looking at our history, that seems to be an ongoing struggle. So we will continue to be diligent in looking at FCE finances.

Board members have had questions about the dues raise ~ how our senior members on fixed incomes (or anyone on a fixed income) can find the funds to pay their dues. I hope each of us will look for ways to make this happen. FCE members are wonderful at supporting local needs ~ domestic abuse centers, senior citizen centers, cancer research, fund drives for local needs, youth, literacy programs ~ and needs beyond their communities. I would hope that local treasuries would find a way to pay the \$2 increase in dues for those members that find it difficult to come up with the money. If you had 10 members in your club that would be \$20 for the increase in their dues.

I would also challenge EACH of us to recruit 1 new member ~ what a difference that would make! Ask your neighbor, your friend from church, your daughter, your sister-in-law ~ pay their dues for a year. The personal touch is the way to increase membership. It has to be from the local members.

At the 2010 Conference Marcy Price, KS was elected Treasurer, Susie Martell, VT was elected Vice President for Program and Kay Baker, TN was elected to the Atlantic Region Public Policy Coordinator position. Anne Engen, OR was appointed to the Western Region Program Coordinator position. We welcome these women to the National FCE Board.

I have spent much time worrying about how I would write this first column for the FCE Today. My transition into the office of president was not traditional or usual. I was prepared. Carolyn Ropp was an excellent mentor to me and kept me informed at all times. Bettie Lucas was just starting her term, when she was struck down by cancer. She and I had many phone visits to keep me up to date. I cannot thank either one of them enough for the support they gave me. The National FCE board has been wonderful ~ each of the members has worked hard to fulfill the duties assigned to them. I want to thank them for their time, energy, leadership and dedication they have given to FCE.

During my presidency I hope to promote ACWW at all levels, give members the tools they need to make a difference in their communities and offer leadership training and development to those wanting to go to the next level. And to quote a past president: "I hope Family will remain the focus of FCE for the long term."

Judy Fullmer
National FCE President

2010 CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

National FCE congratulates all of the award winners and would like to encourage each state to submit an entry in each category.

Program Award Book Winners

EDUCATION

- 1st Place ~ West Virginia
- 2nd Place ~ Tennessee
- 3rd Place ~ Kansas

LEADERSHIP

- 1st Place ~ Tennessee
- 2nd Place ~ West Virginia

ACTION

- 1st Place ~ West Virginia
- 2nd Place ~ Colorado
- 3rd Place ~ Kansas

Essay and Artwork Contest Winners

FAIRNESS

- 1st Place ~ Chelsea Greenway, Colorado
- 2nd Place ~ Jonathan Anderson, Tennessee
- 3rd Place ~ Emily Silverman, Maryland

Tree of Knowledge Scholarship Winners

Jeanette Salfen, Hawaii
Brittany Walker, West Virginia
Shae Lynn Walker, West Virginia

National Board Alumni First Timers Scholarship Winners

Bobbie Hensley, Tennessee
Julie Von Linsowe, Michigan
Phyllis Wapniarek, Delaware

2010 Spirit of FCL Winner

Margaret Mai, Arizona

Program Award Display Board Winners

EDUCATION

- 1st Place - Texas
- 2nd Place – Tennessee

LEADERSHIP

- 1st Place—Tennessee
- 2nd Place – West Virginia

ACTION

- 1st Place – Kansas
- 2nd Place – North Dakota
- 3rd Place – West Virginia

2010 State Heart of FCE Winners

Rosie Burgess, Alaska
Clara O'Connor, Colorado
Jean Skibinski, Delaware
Misae Hayashi, Hawaii
Bonnie McAdam, Kansas
Glenna Burgess, Maryland
Ruthie Bradley, Michigan
Linda Thompson, Missouri
Doris Walen, North Dakota
Laveda Rathman, Nebraska
Sodsai (Susie) Mahan, Oregon
Jacquie Dishner, Tennessee
Bonnie Miller, Virginia

Heart of FCE Award

Look around your FCE group. Which current member gives with a joyful heart to inspire everyone to support and promote FCE projects and events? Who shares their talent and time to teach FCE lessons? Who reaches out to people in your community to help make lives better?

Nominate that person for the Heart of FCE Award.

At the local level FCE members can be nominated again if they were not selected as their state winner.

State Presidents you are to send your Heart of FCE Award state winner's form and 2X2 inch photo to the National FCE Headquarters by April 15, 2011.

Each state's Heart of FCE Award winner will be honored at the national conference in Denver in July, 2011.

Anne Engen
Pacific Region Program Coordinator

THANK YOU

FCE members - thank you again for thinking of me through another back surgery. My rods broke May 13. It took awhile to find someone to perform surgery after 3 sets of rods breaking. Until I found someone willing to perform the surgery, I had to stay mostly in bed. On August 20 an Ohio surgeon took a different approach, which I think will work. Since then I have been working to walk again. It is a slow process, yet I am determined to keep at it. Hopefully, when I next see the doctor on November 11, he will order some physical therapy to help more.

The many cards and notes from FCE members have really bolstered my spirits and helped in my recuperation.

We are usually in Florida by this time of the year. One benefit of staying later is enjoying the colorful leaves and thinking about having Thanksgiving and Christmas here. Then we will head south. A parting gift as FCE National President from many FCE members was a set of Portmeirion "Holly and Ivy" Christmas dishes. These will make a festive table this year. This is something I would have not bought for myself. Thanks for thinking of me in this way.

Continue to keep me in your thoughts and prayers.

Carolyn Ropp,
Past FCE President



CHARACTER COUNTS! CONTEST 4th GRADE STUDENTS

Can win a Savings Bond in the amount of \$500, \$250, \$100
for a pencil drawing and story about
CARING

Students' pencil drawings must illustrate the Pillar
of Character, CARING

Students must include an accompanying 50 – 100 word story
on lined paper, explaining the drawing. Story may be printed
or handwritten.

- The CHARACTER COUNTS! Contest for 4th grade students runs from September 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. Winning drawings and stories are published by National FCE.

ENTER NOW!

National FCE sponsors this nationwide contest to encourage students to strive for excellence in all areas of learning, while emphasizing the Six Pillars of Character in the CHARACTER COUNTS! program.

National FCE members are encouraged to work with local schools, either public, private or home-schools, to bring the CHARACTER COUNTS! Essay and Artwork Contest to 4th grade students and their teachers during the contest year. The contest does not have to be completed during class time. It may be conducted at a library, in a Sunday School class, with Girl/Boy scouts or with 4-H members.

Clarence the Caring Dragon, a 'beanie-like' toy, is available for local prizes and promotion for the Essay and Artwork Contest.

Contact State and County FCE Presidents for information call National FCE Headquarters at 859-525-6401 or see the website at www.nafce.org.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE 2010 ACWW TRIENNIAL

ACCESS to CREDIT: In view of the United Nations first Millennium Development Goal calling for eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, and to improve employment for women, be it resolved that the ACWW member societies call on their governments to make available access to credit for women.

PLASTIC BAGS USE: All ACWW member societies urge their Communities to restrict the use of plastic bags and to reduce excess packaging. Consumers need to be informed and governments need to take action in order to promote a sustainable future.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: ACWW member societies encourage their members to: ensure that women have sufficient knowledge about financial management in their households; educate women to draw up a spending plan or budget to ensure financial security within the household.

LAND RETENTION: ACWW member societies urge their governments to ensure that, with reports of a coming world food shortage and the search for alternatives to fossil fuels, sufficient quantities of arable land are retained for food production and not diverted to growing crops for bio fuel production.

TREE PLANTING

A recommendation passed at the 2010 Triennial was to urge all ACWW member societies worldwide (where possible) to plant trees as a contribution towards combating climate change. National FCE is planning to participate in this project by planting a tree in Colorado during the National FCE Conference.

To National FCE Alumni:

Thank you so much for the NAFCE Convention Scholarship. What a surprise. I always love conventions. It's always fun to meet new people and renew old friendships. I have met so many wonderful people in my years in FCE and I treasure them all. I am sure I will share with all who didn't attend what I experienced. Thank you again. Hope to see you in Colorado!

Julie VonLinsowe
Stanwood, MI

Dear FCE Friends,

Thank you for your gift-in-kind donation per the attached form.* Caring donors like you are the heart and soul of our institution. Your gift has been put to immediate use and is greatly appreciated.

Your donation is appreciated by our patients and their families, by our staff, and by your friends at the Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundations.

With sincere thanks,

Vicki J. Weaver
President

*Attached form acknowledged that 117 Children's books were donated at the National FCE Conference in Grand Rapids, MI to the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation.

Dear National FCE:

I would like to thank the National FCE Alumni for awarding me the first timer's scholarship at the 2010 National conference in July. Since I was elected state president this year, I was honored to represent Delaware as a voting delegate. I was impressed with the creative displays. I also had the pleasure of meeting so many friendly and helpful FCE members. In all, the conference was a wonderful learning experience. Thank you again.

Phyllis Wapniarek
Delaware

REQUEST FROM HEADQUARTERS

Often orders received at National FCE Headquarters are requested to be delivered within just a few days. Please keep in mind that headquarters is a one person office and I can not meet special request dates, you need to allow three to four weeks for delivery. Usually your orders are sent much faster but remember to order early so you are sure to have your supplies.

Thanks

Judy Jones
National FCE Headquarters

MISSOURI FCE STATE PRESIDENTS

Missouri FCE was honored to have five past State Presidents attend the National FCE Conference in Michigan.



Left to right: Lynn Maples, Betty Schalk, Karen Walker, Ruth Deckard, and Betty Reynolds

THANK YOU

I was very surprised and pleased when I received my package containing a tote bag, programs and comments from Conference. Thank you to whomever thought of the idea.

I plan to attend in Denver.
I appreciate the gesture.
Juanita Gillaspie

WE REMEMBER

Jennie Villa-Quiroz was a woman ahead of her time. She believed that women should be leaders and provided training and mentoring to everyone who wanted to learn. Jennie worked diligently to bring FCL to Arizona. In Yuma Co. she looked for, encouraged, and pushed several women to attend the 30-hour institutes. She developed and presented many workshops training women on leadership skills.

Jennie was Arizona FCE's State President from 1979 to 1982. In true Jennie fashion she rode the bus to Albuquerque during her presidency to the National Conference. She came back full of information and enthusiasm.

She was a leader, a trainer, an educator, mentor and good friend. She will be greatly missed.

Jennie Villa-Quiroz May 15, 1923-August 20, 2010

Submitted by Margaret Mai, AZ State FCE President

ALUMNI GIFTS

The Alumni jewelry sales was \$130.85 to be used for Alumni First Time Scholarships. Leftover jewelry was given to Michigan FCE to distribute in local domestic abuse centers.

The National FCE Alumni "Cups for the Cure" decorated bra contest raised \$87.30 for Breast Cancer Research and was donated locally.

**2011 National FCE Conference
FCE Diamond Jubilee
Connecting Families and Communities
Through Education ~ Leadership ~ & Action
For 75 Years**

**July 14 – 17
Ramada Plaza Denver North
Northglenn, CO 80233
Ph (303) 452-4100**

Rooms will be \$79 plus tax (King or Double Queens). Rate includes a full hot breakfast for up to 2 people. When making reservations ask for the National Association for Family and Community Education group block in order to receive the negotiated rate. The block of rooms for our conference is being held until June 8, 2011.

Conference registration will be \$345 ~ this is a saving of \$75 from past conferences. The board was able to offer this price because there was no food budget and the AV costs are minimal at the hotel we have contracted with. FCL training and certificates will be offered at Conference at no additional cost.

FCL Workshops to be offered at 2011 Conference:

- Love is... Decisions, Decisions, Decisions ~ Group decision making can be fun, exhilarating, even hilarious. You'll discover what "Love" has to do with it!
- Generations at Odds ~ Learn to "Bury the Hatchet" and Hammer out a Deal" by learning the tools of resolving family issues.
- Come Ride with us on the Wheel of Public Policy ~ Come spin the wheel with us for an adventure in Public Policy. Learn to understand the process.

Two Hearth Fires will be written, printed and presented at the 2011 Conference:

- Someone's Singing... Money, Money, Monney ~ Financial issues affect everyone. This Hearth Fire will answer some of the most asked questions. It is intended to make you more informed, confident and ready to deal with your finances. It will give you insight into how to begin to plan for the future and handle current finances.

- Someone's Asking... Paper or Plastic or Neither? ~ Are paper or plastic bags really free? Each piece of litter has a human face behind it. How many plastic bags are used world-wide annually? How many trees are cut each year for paper bags? How many gallons of water are wasted each day?

Leader guides are being prepared for the following topics:

- Avoiding the Pitfalls of Power PowerPoint Presentations and Easy E-mail Expediting ~ Learn some simple tips for creating good PowerPoint Presentations to complement your FCE and FCL lessons and how to establish an e-mail account to communicate electronically. Participants will learn how to have an e-mail account without having a personal computer or internet access at home, along with common techniques for saving, printing and adding and opening attachments to e-mail.
- Are You Smarter Than an Identity Thief? ~ Learn the many clever and sneaky ways thieves can disrupt your life by stealing your identity. Let us raise your ID IQ!

LOOK for more information on the 2011 Conference in the next FCE Today

HONOR FUND

Woman to Woman...Building New Leadership

At the 2010 Conference, the voting delegates unanimously agreed to establish an Honor Fund. Money from this fund will be used to promote leadership development.

Who may give to this fund? Anyone, not just members. Family, friends, visitors—all are welcome to donate. FCE states and clubs may donate, too.

How much? Any amount may be donated, just let Headquarters know that the money goes to the Honor Fund. \$10-\$10 million accepted!

Why give? To honor a person or persons—graduation, birth, marriage, and, yes, death. Even donations “just because” are more than welcome.

The newly established committee will make a determination how this money will be used in 2011 and succeeding years. Whatever is decided will have to do with leadership development of individuals, families, and communities.

Help support leadership development today. Mail donations to National FCE Headquarters; 73 Cavalier Blvd., Ste. 106; Florence, KY, 41042-5178. Checks are to be made to National FCE and earmarked for the Honor Fund.

Articles about the Honor Fund will be found in future issues of the FCE TODAY. They will include any donations made to honor a person/s or event. The amounts of the donation will NOT be published.

Margaret Mai, AZ, Chairman
Joan Geyer, ND
Susan Yee, HI

ESSAY AND ARTWORK CONTEST

1st place

What fairness Means to Me

The definition of fairness is to be open-minded, to take turns, to play by the rules, and not taking advantage of others.

My little sister is a great example of fairness. She is always trying to be fair whether it is playing by the rules, or not taking advantage of people. If it is just giving someone a bag of chips for snack, or listening to me, she tries her best to be fair.

It may not seem like much, but the little things count. I know that she will grow-up and set a great example for others.

Chelsea,
Colorado

Why is the Family and Community Leadership program important to you?

Author John W. Gardner states in his book “*On Leadership*”, “For every effectively functioning leader in our society, I would guess that there are five or ten others with the same potential for leadership...” Many of these leaders may never have their talents mature and bear fruit without help.

The Family Community Leadership program has shown that it can help people, particularly women, gain more control over their lives and make their neighborhoods and communities a better place to live.

The FCL concept is simple. Train people to be leaders, asking in return only that they then train others, thus multiplying the benefits. The rewards are improved leadership skills, increased self confidence, personal growth, and more knowledge of public affairs.

Proper FCL training for FCE members and non-members is the backbone of FCE. The organization will not grow or sustain itself without effective leadership. We have many potential leaders within our ranks. What they need is the **motivation** and **opportunity** to receive the training that can help them become great leaders.

This training can be accomplished several ways. FCL Training at National Conference, State FCL Training Institutes, and FCL presentations taught in a variety of settings. To help members give and receive the FCL training needed by their members, the National Board has made the decision that past FCL Day materials will be made available for purchase. These will be sold in spiral bound form for a cost of \$8.00 for each individual presentation. They will not be made available for a year after they were used in FCL Day at conference. The first three years of FCL Day materials will be available for purchase early in 2011.

The National Board has also made the decision to incorporate FCL training into conference. Beginning in 2011, FCL Day will be a part of conference and will be included in the conference registration fee. We sincerely hope that this decision will help more members take advantage of FCL training.

Bonnie Teeples
VP for Public Policy

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put responsibility on their shoulders.

– Abigail Van Buren, advice columnist

fce

National Association For
Family & Community Education

2009 Annual Report

National FCE Headquarters, 73 Cavalier Blvd, Suite 106, Florence, KY 41042

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, INC.
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets—Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2009

	2009
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$89,929
Investments	\$159,421
Furniture and equipment - net	\$195
Total Assets	\$249,545
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accrued Liabilities	\$11,596
Total Liabilities	\$11,596
 Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$237,950
Temporarily restricted	\$0
Total Net Assets	\$237,950
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$249,546

For accountant's review report and accompanying notes contact Headquarters.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, INC.
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

		2009 <u>Total</u>
Public Support, Other Receipts and Reclassifications:		
Dues	\$	77,039
Annual conference		48,521
FCL Day meeting		3,233
Sales of materials		12,193
Miscellaneous receipts		1,906
Interest and dividend income		<u>4,987</u>
Total public support, other receipts and reclassifications	\$	<u>147,879</u>
Disbursements:		
Program Services -		
Awards	\$	4,513
Annual Conference		50,081
FCL Day meeting		3,552
Other meetings		3,260
Board meeting - Fall		14,124
Member publications		29,610
Member insurance		24,771
Program administration		<u>1,318</u>
Total program services expense	\$	131,229
General and administrative	\$	72,241
Unrealized Losses		<u>9,277</u>
Total program and support services	\$	<u>212,747</u>
Changes in Net Assets	\$	<u>(64,868)</u>
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$	<u>302,818</u>
Net Assets - End of year	\$	<u><u>237,950</u></u>

For accountant's review report and accompanying notes contact Headquarters.

From Susie Martell for Bettie Lucas, President

Again this year has been a year of change. Carolyn Ropp, our president at the beginning of 2009 had an accident with her back, and was unable to come to the Annual Conference. VP of Program, Judy Fullmer, stepped up to the plate, and we had a successful conference, everyone pulling together and helping each other.

At the Annual Conference, we had some lively discussions on the dues increase that were being proposed, understanding that times were hard for both businesses and individuals. In the end, we came to a compromise. The voting delegates reduced the proposed dues increase, and the national board promised to make cuts to make up the difference between the proposed increase and the voted on increase.

Bettie Lucas, who was President-Elect, was elected President at the Annual Conference. She took over as President in September and conducted the fall board meeting where the 2010 Annual Conference was planned. This included all the programs for the 2010 FCL Day, as well as other programs at the conference. Unfortunately, after the fall board meeting, Bettie found out that her cancer had returned, and began treatment. She had to resign her position in the spring of 2010 – but we can continue her dreams by encouraging leadership training, taking care of ourselves health wise, and enjoying our friends and family (both personal and FCE.)

From Judy Fullmer, VP Program

FCE members are involved in many types of projects to help others. Literacy is a favorite program evidenced by the number of books that are donated to newborns and other reading projects that FCE clubs organize. 10,983 books were donated by reporting states.

The CHARTER COUNTS! Essay and Artwork Contest was sponsored in many states and continues to be an important FCE program.

Sixteen (16) states reported 21,988.75 hours of volunteer service by FCE members. According to the Independent Sector each of these hours is worth \$19.51, totaling \$429,000.51.

The Hearth Fire series continues to be popular. 28 different Hearth Fires were used by reporting states. Three (3) new Hearth Fires were introduced in 2009:

#45 Someone's Looking in the Mirror... and Sees the Face of Arthritis

#46 Someone's Asking... What is Sexting and Cyberbullying?

#47 Woman to Woman... Look Fit and Fabulous at ANY AGE

Pennies for Friendship and other ACWW projects are favorite FCE Benefactors.

FCE members volunteer in many community projects. These projects wouldn't happen without the involvement of FCE members.

From Bonnie Teeples, VP Public Policy

FCL Day in 2009 was a positive learning experience for the forty seven attendees. Four topics were covered: Leadership- "Interpersonal Communications"; Public Policy- "What is Public Policy?"; Issue Analysis and Resolution- "Dealing with Change"; Group Process- "Parliamentary Procedure".

Two states continue to hold FCL Training Institutes. The National FCE board felt there needed to be continuity in the training given at these Institutes. As a result, *FCL Training Institutes Guidelines* were written and adopted by the board. Proper FCL Training for FCE members and non-members is the backbone of FCE. A general session at 2010 annual Conference will present material to help the state organizations plan and present effective FCL Trainings.

As a result of National FCL Training and State Institute Trainings, twenty six individuals have received the **FCL Leader** certification and four individuals received **FCL Trainer** certification.

Public policies are all those laws, regulations, rules of elected and appointed governmental bodies that impact our lives. FCE members use such public policy actions as: communicating with lawmakers, coalition work, and communicating a position to all forms of the media. We encourage our members to be involved in Public Policy in ways that help fulfill the mission FCE.

Another of my responsibilities is to encourage members to write public officials informing them of issues we feel need to be addressed. A letter was written for the state presidents concerning the bills before congress dealing with the tax deductions for volunteer mileage. Members were also asked to write local TV programming offices, networks, and corporations that sponsor TV programming that depicts anti-family values. Many states participated in both these activities.

It is important that we stay involved in public policy, and let our voices be heard.

Check It OUT! These treasures can be found on the www.nafce.org web site. States, counties, and clubs are encouraged to apply to them. NOTE: The change in mailing address. The deadline for the forms is APRIL 15, and mailed to: National FCE Headquarters, 73 Cavalier Blvd, Suite 106, Florence, KY 41042

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD:

Purpose: This award has no description or criteria except for the form that needs to be filled out.

Who can apply: FCE Clubs, Study Groups, Councils, Districts

Reward: Certificate of acknowledgment.

SUPERIOR UNIT AWARD:

Purpose: This award has no description or criteria except for the form that needs to be filled out.

Who can apply: FCE Clubs, Study Groups, Councils, Districts who previously received an Outstanding Unit Certificate

Reward: Certificate of acknowledgement.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD:

Purpose: This award recognizes FCE groups or individuals who through their community service projects are changing the lives of others for the better. Many of the projects that members undertake do not fall under the umbrella of any of the National program awards. Therefore, this award may be used to honor those projects.

Who can apply: Any FCE groups or individuals who through their community service project are changing the lives of others for the better. This project will be given to one entry from each state.

Each entry must include a program report book and a display board.

Reward: A Certificate of acknowledgement and a set of Hearth Fire Lessons.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD:

Purpose: The public can't buy a program they never hear about. Getting our name out is the main GOAL for the Public Relations Committee. This can be done in many and various ways.

Who can apply: Any FCE group who get the name "Family and Community Education" out to the public.

Reward: Certificate

Susan Yee
Pacific Region Public Policy Coordinator

BYLAWS

State affiliates wishing to present proposed amendments to the FCE Bylaws shall send the proposals to National FCE Headquarters by January 1.

REPONSE TO 2010 CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS

Below are board responses to some of the questions from the 2010 Conference evaluations.

1. Have the Conference every 2 years.

The bylaws require that FCE meet annually for the purpose of electing officers, determining annual objectives and actions, adopting a budget, conducting business and presenting educational programs. To have the conference every 2 years would require amending the bylaws.

2. The reading of the memorials is meaningless, we don't know them.

The names read at the memorial service were past National Board members and past state presidents. It was felt this was a fitting way to honor the time, energy, leadership and dedication these women devoted to FCE.

3. No seconds on motions at the first meeting.

Motions that come from committee don't require a second. The motion on the 50 cent per member dues raise is required by the bylaws and does not require a second.

4. Do you really need a Young Families coordinator?

Does **FCE** need a Young Families coordinator? I know that those of us on the board appreciate the energy and input that the Young Families Coordinator brings to our meetings. We get a perspective that some of us do not see. We are an organization that can help/benefit young families. They need us. We have a viable commodity that they are in the market for; the YFC can help us to make decisions that will appeal to young families. Again, this is in the bylaws and would require an amendment to do away with the position.

5. I believe the FCL Benefit was too high priced.

A benefit is something to promote, help, profit ~ a charity performance. The price of the meal is to allow FCE to "Benefit" and use the profit for Education and Leadership. Attendance at this event is by choice.

ACWW

Delegates were told at the Triennial in Hot Springs earlier this year of the financial difficulties faced by ACWW as the world economy collapsed. The treasurer challenged all members and member societies to donate the price of a loaf of bread in your country to Coins for Friendship. This would release the financial strain being experienced by ACWW. The Coins for Friendship funds are unrestricted and can be used for administrative cost to implement the projects, the overhead of running ACWW, and staff training. Please consider meeting this challenge.

**Years wrinkle the skin, but lack of enthusiasm
wrinkles the soul.
Norman Vincent Peale**

On May 2, 2010, 23 inches of rain fell on the Nashville/Central Middle Tennessee area in thirty-six hours. Rivers in the area flooded at a 1,000 year flood stage. Five months later residents are still rebuilding their homes, many of which had water to the rooftops and over.

Tennessee's Eastern Region FCE members are gathering Christmas decorations for the residents of the Bellevue area of the city. Forty members of the Bellevue United Methodist Church were completely flooded out of their homes. Most hope to return by Christmas, but they haven't thought ahead beyond that, according to a staff member of the church. One small load of decorations has been delivered to the church already, another will go by October 25, and the last load will go when we go to our state conference in early November.

The church has a room where they will put these items after Thanksgiving for the church members, then offer them to the neighborhood, and any left will go to the distribution center at the local mall for the community.

Anyone interested in sending Christmas decorations, new, used in good condition, or handmade, may send them by Thanksgiving to:

Gina Bland
Bellevue United Methodist Church
7501 Old Harding Pike
Nashville, TN 37221



Please note: The decorations MUST arrive before Thanksgiving.

Submitted by Mary Lou Burch,
Eastern Region President, Thorn Hill, TN

National Association for
Family & Community Education
73 Cavalier Blvd., Suite 106
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www.nafce.org
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