



National FCE Board Alumni Newsletter

April 2024

A Note from Denise

Greetings!

Spring is finally in the air! My daffodils and hyacinths have bloomed and I've set out tomatoes and lettuce. My small garden is always a treat for me and a sign that we are not far away from the 2024 NAFCE Conference, being held in Erlanger, KY from July 24th to July 28th. There will be a tour, fun workshops, business meetings, awards luncheon, Hearth Fire workshops, FCL workshops, FCL presentations, a memorial service, and sharing time. So much to do and your board has managed to cram it all into 5 days! Registration forms are available on the NAFCE website (www.nafce.org) – click on Quick Links > 2024 National Conference. There is also information on hotel registration on the website.



We will be holding a Silent Auction, once again, to raise funds for the Alumni Scholarships. See more information in this newsletter on what kinds of items you can contribute. Your Alumni officers have been more concerted this year about promoting the availability of our First Timers Scholarships. State presidents were sent email reminders of where to find the application form, requirements, and due dates, in hopes that they will share with their members and encourage first timers to attend. Scott Teeples added the application to more

locations on the NAFCE website to make it easier to find. We are hoping for more applicants this year, as we have sufficient funds to support several. I am really looking forward to seeing many of you at conference. Your board works very hard to present and share new programs/projects for all of us to take home and implement. Let's support them by attending the 2024 Conference!

NAFCE Alumni
Officers

Chair

Denise Smith

Vice Chair

Martha Crawford

Secretary

Margaret Polen

Treasurer

Susie Martell

Denise Smith

NAFCE Alumni Chairman

Reminder!

Alumni dues of \$25 for 2024-2025 are due September 1st. If you have not already paid, please submit, using the membership form attached to this issue.

Make check payable to: NAFCE Board Alumni

Mail to: Susie Martell

8851 N. Oracle Rd. # 179, Oro Valley, AZ 85704



In Memory

We are sad to inform you that Sandy Medeiros passed away recently. As of press time for the newsletter, we have few details. As soon as we receive a mailing address for her family, we will email it out so that cards and condolences can be sent. Sandy served on the NAFCE Board from 2007 – 2009 as Eastern Public Policy Coordinator (MA). She and her husband Rudy were frequent attendees of our conferences. Rudy passed away in 2022. Sandy was a clever seamstress and made many of the Character Counts! © character costumes which were worn by board members to promote the program. Sandy's contributions to FCE, as well as her witty sense of humor, will be missed.



McCall's
PRINTED PATTERN WITH
FOUR-DIGIT TRANSFER
1799
ONE SIZE
36

NAFCE Alumni Fund Raiser for 2024

We want to continue fund raising via silent auction at the 2024 conference but would like some new or different ideas for small items that board members can contribute. A possible suggestion is aprons of any design, as well as small quilted items. The items must be small enough to fit in a suitcase. They may be purchased or handcrafted items. Moneys collected will go towards the NAFCE Board Alumni Scholarship Fund to assist First Timers to attend conference. Be sure to include an upstart price for your items. If you do not



plan to attend conference you can mail your contribution to **Martha Crawford, 1317 County Rd. 288, Ballinger, TX 76821**. Martha is pleased to act as our NAFCE Amazon delivery service! The deadline for mailing items to Martha is **July 17th**.

From the Editor



Your articles and photos (yes, we'd love to have photos!) can be sent to my email address: cdsmith2139@gmail.com or to my home address:

433 Sylvan Ave. spc 39, Mountain View, CA 94041 or give me a call at: **650 969-3422** - leave a message if I'm not at home. Next newsletter **deadline is October 10, 2024**. We hope to hear from lots of you!

As a reminder, all the NAFCE Alumni Newsletters are available on the www.nafce.org website. Click on **Quick links > Website Menu > Alumni Officers, Forms, Newsletters**.

Hugs, Denise Smith

Margaret Polen South West FCE

Happy Spring to ALL! Right now, the sky is blue, there is a moderate breeze, and birds are singing. Temperatures are beginning to climb here. The veggie growing season is over. The wheat is up and heading out, the melons are growing, the alfalfa is up (it is year-round) and soon it will be time to plant cotton. Last year at the FCE Conference an afternoon of work by all those attending produced an Action Plan for 3 years (or longer). Food Security affects all of us. Weather affects whether crops grow and thrive or wither and die. Maintaining soil, watching water usage, and much more go into the foods we eat—whether we be vegetarian/vegan or otherwise. Do you live in a food desert? Do you know where your food comes from? Do you know where they will come from tomorrow? Do you know about expiration or use by dates on the food you buy? How much food do you or others waste? These are just some of the things that FCE will be involved in—whether in education, taking leadership in, or moving on to action. COME JOIN US at the NATIONAL FCE CONFERENCE this July in Erlanger, KY. Information can be found on the website: nafce.org.



Margaret Polen ~ National FCE Board Alumni, Secretary
National FCE Vice Pres. For Public Policy

From Emily Gordon Tennessee FCE

I presented the FCL Lesson "Music Magic" at my Delta Kappa Gamma meeting in January. A state officer was present and passed along how much she enjoyed it. I received an invitation to present it at their state convention in June. Of course, they won't get FCL credit but I will get to promote FCE and they will get to do a seated line-dance!





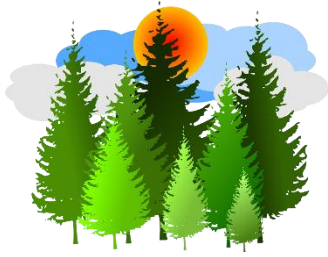
Musings from Judy Fullmer Kansas FCE

Alumni ~ The National Board has been wonderful to work with. The board manual has been updated thanks to Peggy Martens. Margaret Mai Polen led the 2023 conference attendees through an Issue and Analysis Resolution session. It was longer than some were comfortable with but I did get comments ~ "I have never participated in a session like that", "It was long, but I can see how we reached our decisions", and the "I couldn't sit/concentrate that long". Out of that session we developed a 3-year focus ~ Food Security. So, you will see National FCE addressing that issue the next 3 years, now 2 years. We have done a lot of education on Food Security this first year. Next year I hope we can get some projects going. This fits with a resolution we got passed at the last ACWW Triennial.

My local FCE has had some experience with Food Security the last few months. Our local grocery store burned in January and the community has been figuring out how to get through that. A neighboring town's grocery store delivers groceries to homes once a week ~ you call in your order. Another neighboring town's meat packing plant comes over once a week with a variety of meats, some frozen and some refrigerated. We do have a Dollar General that has very limited food items. They have milk, cheese, some frozen items, bread, canned and boxed items. The community will have a community garden this summer. Our FCE club may get involved with that. And last week a local man has opened a small grocery store, he is able to place an order at a neighboring town's grocery store and go there with his truck to pick up his order. He doesn't have enough of an order for the truck to stop in Dighton. So, we are slowly getting things back to "normal".

My family ~ Both my daughters live in Colorado. Joni (and Jeff Risley) in Littleton. She is still working in finances with the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma ~ she works remotely and goes to Oklahoma maybe once a month. Her daughters ~ Daryn is in Phoenix going to school ~ at least she says she is!!! Kyndal works for the Sweden Hospital in Denver as a sleep study intern ~ she is the one who watches all the dials and measurements while you are having a sleep study done. Gina is in Ft Collins, works for Children's Mercy in medical records. She has a boyfriend we all like. Her son Alec was married last summer to Andrea, they have recently moved to Ark City, KS. He works for the fire department and Andrea teaches at the junior college. They are hoping to buy a house soon. Erica is saving money to go back to Japan. She works for a construction company (her brother got her the job, he worked there when he was in FC) painting. Currently she is in Dighton painting my mom's house ~ inside and out. Probably been 15+ years since it was last painted. Olivia is going to school at Ft Collins. She has an apartment and a roommate. Chris is still taking care of the family farm. He has a small cow herd and grows milo and wheat. His wife Doey works at the Lane County Hospital and for the school district. Guy (Chris's son) has started a new endeavor ~ concrete crushing. He got his granddad to cosign on a loan to buy this \$\$\$\$\$ piece of equipment. He has contracts with several landfills around and a feedlot to crush their concrete. I didn't know there was such a thing!! He and Michelle have our 3 great grandkids ~ Blithe 11, Quinn 9 and Grayson 5 1/2. Mom is in the Long-Term Care facility in Dighton. She is still able to get around pretty good. If she could hear her life would be perfect!!! She has very limited hearing and her eyesight is probably not what it was, although she was at her eye doctor last week and he said there were no changes from last year, she has macular degeneration. My sister Vicki and brother David & Peggy try to get here every 6 weeks or so to spend time with her. Dennis (brother) and I are here and take care of the day-to-day things. She would rather be in her home, but is satisfied at the LTC which we are very thankful for.

Judy Fullmer



From Scott Teeples Oregon FCE

2024 Oregon FCE High School Age CHARACTER COUNTS! © Essay Contest

Throughout the years there has been discussions across the USA about producing some way of involving and introducing young adults into the National Association for Family and Community Education (FCE). FCE across the nation has been suffering from membership loss and we all needed to find a way of inviting young people into FCE. Oregon FCE has come up with a means of doing that.

Throughout the years, 4th grade students were introduced to FCE through the National 4th Grade Essay and Artwork contest. It was way past time to introduce and invite young adults into FCE. Something needed to be done.

In November of 2024 Oregon FCE came up with and started the first FCE High School Age CHARACTERCOUNTS! © Essay Contest. It was designed, developed, and promoted by Scott Teeples, Oregon FCE President. The Oregon FCE Board approved the proposed Essay Contest, and it was off to a running start.

The Oregon FCE High School Age CHARACTERCOUNTS! © Essay Contest is based off the 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest except that there is not an artwork part of the contest. It is based on the same CHARACTERCOUNTS! © themes as the 4th Grade Essay Contest. The 2024 theme was **Citizenship** and the 2025 theme is **Trustworthiness**.

Criteria and judging of the High School Age Contest is a little different from the 4th Grade Contest. 10% of the score is for correctly filling out the application form. 10% of the score is from an FCE Quiz about FCE. This Quiz is to encourage the participants to learn something about FCE. 80% of the contest was based on the essay itself. Participants had to write about what Citizenship was in the past, what it is in the present time, what they think it should be in the future, and how it affects them personally. The participants need to be of **high school age** to participate. The contest does NOT have to be done at school. It can be done at home, church, or other places.

The deadline for the Contest was March 1, 2024. Place winner received money awards of \$500 for 1st place, \$300 for 2nd place, and \$200 for 3rd place.

The Contest information and forms were posted on the Oregon FCE website, www.oregon-fce.org, handed out in schools across the state, emailed out, and posted on various social media.

This year there were 6 participants. It was agreed that since it was the first year, it was a good start. The judging was completed by 7 of the Oregon FCE Board members. All the essays were excellent, and the judging was difficult due to the excellent quality of all of them. All the judges agreed that the essays touched their hearts and gave them hope for the future of our young adults. Each of the place winners and participants were sent a letter and a check. Due to the quality of the essays, Bonnie and Scott Teeples also awarded \$50 check from their business, Keeper's Corner LLLC – Antique, Craft, and Collectable Mall, to each of the non-placing participants.

Overall, we felt that the contest was successful. The essay applications were perfect. By taking the FCE Quiz, participants learned more about FCE than some long time FCE members, and the essays were outstanding in quality.

Oregon FCE is going to host the 2025 Oregon FCE High School Age CHARACTERCOUNTS! © Essay Contest. The theme will be Trustworthiness and the requirements and judging will be the same as the 2024 contest. Forms and information will soon be posted on the Oregon FCE website, distributed to schools, and posted on various social media.

Scott Teeples, of Oregon FCE, has made a proposal to National FCE to make this a National FCE contest. The National FCE Board approved of Scott moving forward with the proposal by sending out the information to the States. They have asked Scott to work with Peggy Martens, National FCE Vice President for Program.

If anyone would like more information, please contact Scott Teeples at sfteeples@outlook.com, or call/text him at 541-891-6456.

Mazama High School Hall of Fame Inductee

On Saturday, April 6, 2024, Scott Teeples, current Oregon FCE President was inducted into the Mazama High School Hall of Fame. He was the first Inductee into the Hall of Fame as an Educator.

Since his retirement from teaching in 2008, Scott has been a very active member of FCE at all levels including serving on the National FCE Board as a National FCE Coordinator for 3 years. He has been on the Oregon FCE Board for 15 years including 8 years as Oregon FCE State Secretary, and now is serving his seventh year as Oregon FCE President. Scott also serves as the National FCE Zoom Coordinator for National FCE. He is also the webmaster for the Oregon FCE website, the National FCE website, the Southwest FCE website, and the North Dakota FCE website. He has scanned and posted hundreds of FCL lessons and Hearth Fire Lessons on the National FCE website. In January 2020, Scott began and has maintained the monthly Oregon FCE Zoom lessons. Scott loves FCE. He has, and always will love and support FCE at all levels.

Mazama High School is located in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Scott taught there for 34 years and has been a “nearly full-time sub” the last 16 years, making it a total of 50 years he has loved and supported the school.

While at Mazama High School, Scott taught Career and Technical Education (CTE) including Metals Manufacturing, Drafting, Electricity, Electronics, Woodworking, Small Engines, and Amateur Radio. He was Head of the Applied Technology Department for 30 years. He coached wrestling for 34 years, football for 10 years, and softball for 13 years. Scott was also a SKILLS-USA (student leadership organization) for 29 years. In 1997. Scott was a Top 4 Finalist for Oregon Teacher of the Year Award.

Though the years, Scott, and his wife Bonnie have supported Mazama High School through thousands of hours volunteering for various task, and donations of thousands of dollars to various high school clubs, sports teams, Booster Club, Class Funds, SKILLS-USA, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Mazama High School Student Leadership Programs, the Sparrow Club, the Mazama Kindness Club, and lots of other organizations that needed volunteer time or money.

Scott does what he loves and loves what he does. He looks forward to loving and supporting Mazama High School and FCE every day of his life.

First Timers Application forms are available on the NAFCE website (www.nafce.org) – Click on Quick Links > Alumni Officers, Forms, Newsletters.



From Denise SmithHawaii FCE

Here I am a few hours after my second knee replacement - December 8, 2023. All went well and I continue to mend and improve. Luckily, I don't have an more knees left to replace. Two was enough!



National Association For
Family & Community Education

NATIONAL FCE BOARD ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP FORM-20__

(TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Years Served (optional) _____

National FCE Alumni dues (due September 1st) \$25 per year \$ _____

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Donation

\$ _____

Name & address of person(s) remembered, living or deceased, or those you want to thank or to someone special. A note will be sent to them saying "donation will go to Scholarships for Conference".

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Total \$ _____

All money in the Scholarship Fund will go toward the First Timers Annual Conference Scholarships. If you would like your donation to be in remembrance of or for someone special, please fill out their name and address.

MAKE CHECK TO: NAFCE BOARD ALUMNI

MAIL TO: Susan Martell 8851 N. Oracle Rd. # 179, Oro Valley, AZ 85704

TOTAL OF CHECK: \$ _____

TOTAL OF CASH: \$ _____

ALUMNI MEMBER SIGNATURE