
Your FCE Speaks

February 2022

Hello Fellow Nebraska FCE Members,

A crazy start to another year!

One day you can go without even wearing a coat and the next day you want to just stay in by the fire with a big cup of hot chocolate and lots of covers to keep you warm! Then it gets warm again followed by more cold! But no moisture! I agree that we only need lots of rain and the snow and ice can stay away! And of course, it wouldn't be Nebraska if the wind wasn't blowing us off our feet.

And then the Covid is still giving us problems. At least now, it sounds like the new case numbers are starting to go down again. Hopefully, we can feel like being out and doing things again soon!

Because of Covid/Omicron, many things that we would like to give you details about are just "in the works" and will continue to be worked on! District Meetings are scheduled and all the plans are made. The only thing now is to see if things clear up so we can go ahead with all the meetings. (More about them later in this newsletter).

And the National FCE Conference has dates scheduled for July 14 through 17 in Portland, Oregon. The Motel information is available but we don't have any other details at this time! Please, for those of you that have computers and wish to know more, continue to check the National FCE Website at nafce.org. Information will be updated as it becomes available. The next newsletter will be after the National Conference so I won't be able to give you any more details except for anything that might be sent out before we have our District Meetings. At this time, I don't even know if we will have an "In Person" conference or do a Zoom Meeting like happened last year.

The 2022 Nebraska FCE State Conference and Business Meeting is also being planned. Right now, we have the dates planned for September 22 through 24 in Fremont. We also have the hotel reserved with more information to be available at the District Meetings. The Committee is working on a place to meet along with planning a tour and craft(s) for our enjoyment. If you will not be attending a District Meeting, The next newsletter will be out in August and all the information and Registration Form will be available then.

Have you sent the 2022 Officer Report? Or the 2022 Club, County and /or Individual Report? The Officer Report gives us information about who we can contact if there is anything we feel you need to know about as soon as possible. The Club, County and/or Individual Report give us information of things you and your group did in 2021. That information is compiled and sent to the National Office. That information is then combined with the other FCE States information so that we can see what everyone else is doing and the Volunteer hours listed give us details that the IRS uses to verify that we are a “Not for Profit” organization.

Now it’s time to get information that we do know listed so you can plan accordingly.

Calendar of Events

March 1 - Deadline for entries to the State President (postmark date)

Heart of FCE - (Entry will be judged and the State Winner will be forwarded to National FCE for inclusion at the National level)

Spirit of FCL – Entry will be judged and the State Winner will be forwarded to National FCE for inclusion at the National level Contest)

2nd Grade Environmental Poster Contest - (Entry form – Poster is to be brought to State Conference)

3rd Grade Environmental Essay Contest - (Essay is to accompany the Entry form)

4th Grade “Character Counts! (RM) Artwork and Essay Contest” (Artwork and Essay are to accompany the Entry form for judging with the State Winner to be forwarded to the National FCE “Character Counts! Artwork and Essay Contest”)

5th Grade Creative Writing Contest (Entry is to accompany the Entry form)”

All the above information is available in the Delegate Packets from the 2021 Nebraska FCE State Conference that was held in Broken Bow or mailed to the County/Club Chair.

The “Heart of FCE”, “Spirit of FCL”, and “4th Grade Character Counts!(RM) Artwork and Essay Contest” are also available on the National FCE website under “Forms”

March 5 - Central District - District Meeting – Ainsworth

March 26 - East District – District Meeting – Seward

April 5 - West District – District Meeting – North Platte

(Still farther into the newsletter for details about the District Meetings)

April 15 – Postmark deadline date for

Outstanding FCE Award Entry

Superior FCE Award Entry

National FCE Board Alumni Scholarship Application

These entries are also included in the Delegate Packets and available on the FCE website.

These items are sent directly to the National FCE office for consideration. Address is:

National FCE Headquarters

76 Cavalier Blvd, Suite 106

Florence, Ky, 41042

July 1 – Postmark deadline for Heritage Skills entries

(Poetry entry is to be included with the Entry Form)

Application for Homemakers Education Grant

Application for National FCE Conference Reimbursement Scholarship

July 14 through 17 – National FCE Annual Conference

September 22 through 24 – Nebraska FCE Annual Conference and Business Meeting –
Fremont (more details at District Meetings and the August Newsletter)

Some other things to keep in mind!

The 2023 Nebraska FCE State Conference and Business Meeting - It is time for the West District to Host the Annual Conference. The State Board is always available to help make plans but we need some group, or even a person, to step up and find a site for us to work with for meeting space, lodging, food, tour(s), etc.

Election of Officers

We will be having two (2) State Board vacancies to fill when we meet at the Nebraska Association for Family and Community Education Annual Conference and Business Meeting this fall in Fremont.

The Treasurer position is currently being held by Tammied Sanford. The East District Director position has been held by Jackie Thomson-Bremer. They are both coming to the end

of their second "Term of Office". According to our "Constitution and By-Laws" an officer may hold two (2) consecutive terms of office. A term of office is three (3) years.

Both ladies will be missed on the State Board but I know they are looking forward to moving on to other things.

This also means that we need someone to step forward and move into these offices!

Please think about becoming a State officer, or at least consider who you might think would be a good replacement to move into these offices. We do have paperwork listing what these duties of the offices include.

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We also have some unfinished election business from the 2021 Nebraska Family and Community Education Annual Conference and Business Meeting to take care of. Due to motions for changes to the Nebraska FCE Constitution and By-Laws, the President-Elect position was not voted on.

There was a motion to remove some wording that limited the "Term of Office" for the position of President. This caused some concern about how this affected the President-Elect and President offices. We have found that we would still need to vote for a President-Elect during the second year of the current President's term in office. Because the President would be eligible to hold office for a second term, they could be nominated to run for the office for a second term.

In the event of the current President being elected for a second term, there would not be a one (1) year time for the elected person to be an understudy of the President position. If there is someone else elected, they would have the one (1) year (or in this case, until the 2022 Nebraska State Conference) as understudy of the President and then become President for a three (3) year term.

Our Constitution and By-Laws do allow for us to do State Business at District Meetings. Therefore, a plan is in place for having an election of President-Elect at the meetings.

Because the District meetings are not held on the same day or even with-in a couple weeks, we would have the Nominations sent to the Vice-President, Ginger Turner, who is also the Chairman of the Nominations Committee. She would then prepare a ballot that will be presented for voting at each of the meetings. Voting would be done by the Delegate for the County they represent and the Delegate would have to sign in as the Delegate. Then the ballots would be placed in an envelope and sealed. After all the District meetings are held, a Counting committee would tally the votes and the winner would be notified.

In order to have an election, we need Nominations for the office of President-Elect.

Please consider this position. It is a rewarding opportunity to serve your fellow Nebraska FCE members.

I would like to be considered as a candidate for the position of President-Elect for the Nebraska Family and Community Education. _____

I would like to Nominate _____

To be a candidate for position of President-Elect for the Nebraska Association of Family and Community Education.

We are requesting that Nominations be sent to:

Ginger Turner

300 Road 324

Trumbull, Nebraska, 68980-9716

We are setting a deadline for the Nominations to reach Ginger by February 28 so that there is time to confirm that the Nominees are willing to hold the office and prepare the ballot. We will not be able to take nominations from the floor at each of the meetings as they would not be able to be presented at the other meetings.

After the Counting committee tallies the ballots, Ginger will notify the winner. The winner will then be installed in office and be included in State Board activities as soon as possible.

In the event that we will not be able to have the District Meetings, this election will not happen and a President-Elect will be elected at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Nebraska Family and Community Education and take office at that time as President for a three (3) year term with the current President as an Advisor to assist in the transition for one (1) year.

This will be another reason to attend the District Meetings.

Remember that you are "Welcome to Attend" any, and even all the District Meetings. Of course, you will only be allowed to vote once.

District Meeting Information

The District Directors have their plans made and are eagerly looking forward to you attending their District Meeting.

We will be doing the Registration a little different this year. There will not be a "Registration Form". Instead of filling out a form and mailing it with your payment, we are asking that you **Place a phone call to the District Director** of the District Meeting(s) you wish attend and then pay your \$20.00 Registration Feed when you check in at the Meeting site. This will give you a later date to consider attending the meeting. Also, you will not have to worry about getting your money back in the event that Covid causes us to not be able to have the meetings.

Please make your phone call to:

Pam Bauer at 402-760-0241 to register for the Central District Meeting in Ainsworth by March 1.

Jackie Thomson-Bremer at 402-432-1410 by March 11 for the East District Meeting in Seward.

Margie Surber can be reached at 308-254-4965 by March 25 for the West District Meeting in North Platted.

Central District Meeting

Pam will be Hosting the Central District Meeting on Saturday, March 5 at the Methodist Church in Ainsworth. That address is 3rd and Woodward which is one block west of Main Street.

Registration and Coffee will be at 9:30.

The Lesson – "What Do I Do with a Chuck Roll?" will open the days activities followed by time to "Visit the Land Down Under".

Your State President Cathy McKown and National Vice President for Public Policy Connie Larrington will be available for questions and information from the State and National FCE Boards. We will also have the Election for President-Elect during this time.

Lunch will be samples of the Chuck Roll lesson. We will get to enjoy food we have been shown how to prepare!

After lunch, we will have a lesson about "Food Waste"

Then we will have a "Going Green" craft.

The day will Wrap Up with dessert.

East District Meeting

Jackie has reserved the Seward Civic Center at 616 Bradford Street in Seward for her District Meeting on Saturday, March 26. We will be in the lower level.

Registration will be at 9:30.

We will start the day with information from your State President Cathy McKown. This will also be when we hold the Election for President-Elect.

From there, we will be working on a craft project that will be from the Heritage Skills rotation for the 2022 year. (something that could be an entry for this year at State Conference)

The FCL lesson, "Mental Health" will be presented followed by lunch.

After eating, Gerald Meyer from the National Guard Museum in Seward will present information about the museum. Then we will adjourn to the Museum at 201 North 8th Street for a tour. The Museum is a couple blocks from the Civic Center.

West District Meeting

Margie has enlisted the help of other FCE members in North Platte to help her plan for the West District Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 5. We will be meeting at the Lincoln County Extension Office at 348 West State Farm Road. From Interstate 80, go south on Highway 83 to State Farm Road and then turn right.

Registration will also be at 9:30.

We will open with time with your State President Cathy McKown for questions and information. We will also have the Election for President-Elect during this time.

Margie will be presenting the FCL lesson, "Time Management – Where Does 24 Hours Go?"

For lunch we will be having a Taco Bar or Taco Salad.

After lunch we will be hearing from Vicki McCarty about "Annie Oakley".

The craft project to close out the day will be a Weaving project (or 2). This will be an idea for a Heritage Skill entry for this year at the Nebraska State Conference.

Remember to call the District Director to get registered to attend the meeting you have chosen.

We hope to see you at the District meetings!