President’s Farewell
by Mary Olle, President

What a year it has been...as stated by Ashley Tisdale, "Time flies, but the memories collected along the way can never be replaced." This past year has created many wonderful memories and given me the opportunity to work with and learn from many wonderful people. Through the leadership of our board members, dedication of committee members, and the loyal support of each of our members, we faced and successfully met the challenges put before us. As we look to the future, our vision and purpose must be clear, as we continue to evolve and allow for flexibility to meet the ever changing needs of individuals, families, and communities.

Thanks to each of you for allowing me to learn and grow with our association and collect many wonderful memories that will never be replaced.

Thanks
Mary

In Appreciation: Natalie Knesek, former Executive Director
Jaylie Beckenhauer, CFCS - Counselor

The Executive Committee would like to extend deep appreciation to Natalie Knesek, CFCS, for serving as AAFCS - TX Executive Director from May 2011 through September 2013. Natalie says her motivation for serving in the capacity of ED has always been to do her part in providing a sustainable future for the organization. Three of her stated goals that were accomplished during her two-year term include watching growth of membership, introducing new means of electronic communications, and transitioning the books to an accounting system that has much more depth and transparency.
Members have witnessed more frequent communications via Constant Contact, the monthly E-mail Blasts that highlight special topics and updates. Newsletters have also been published electronically, which is a huge money-saving endeavor. Of course members without e-mail addresses continue to receive AAFCS -TX Action via postal mail. Natalie worked hard to grow AAFCS - TX Student Unit through publicizing HUGS funding to FCS students and meeting with students at State Conference. The transition to Quick Books accounting system does have potential to be more flexible with greater depth than Excel system previously used.

Executive Director is a vital job to keep our affiliate running smoothly. We all greatly appreciate the hard work that Natalie put in to move AAFCS - TX forward via her commitment to the organization. Natalie says that she still wants to be closely involved as a member, and we look forward to that.

Website is ALIVE!

Good News!! The website is now live. Anyone can view the website and all but one of its pages. However, the cache for the old website must be removed. To do that, delete any Favorite or Bookmark you have for the old website. Then go to www.tafcs.org The new website should load. Once that is done, bookmark or make it a favorite. For access to Members Only page, members need to go to the address below and create their own unique username and password (5 characters minimum). Once that is done, members will have access to the Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings and General Assembly of Members, as well as the Bylaws.

Registration page: TAFCS Member Registration

The 2014 Annual State Conference Focused on Visioning for the Future
by Joyce Armstrong, VP Professional Development

Family and consumer sciences professionals across the state met in Richardson, Texas on March 5-8, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas for the 96th American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)-Texas Affiliate State Conference. The theme was "Planning Our Pathway: Visioning 101 through FCS."

The conference's 62 attendees focused on strategies for continued growth and relevance of the Association as we enter the second 100 years of service as a professional organization. Wednesday, March 5th kicked off the executive meetings which continued through Thursday, May 6th with the leadership development training for officers facilitated by Dr. Nancy Shepherd, President Elect. The conference featured 3 pre- and -post conference sessions; 4 general sessions; 7 educational sessions; 4 oral presentations; 5 poster presentations; 4 networking special events; and general membership meetings for a total 24 certified professional development units, 18.75 CFCS and 3.25 CPFFE.

Opening General Session - The conference was kicked-off by Dr. Mary Olle, President, with the opening of the "96th Annual Opening General Session: Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Present and Impacting the Future" and followed by Diane Salvagno Costa, B.S., CFLE on Thursday night. Diane
inspired the group as she shared her experience as an 8th year member of the Highland Village City Council serving in multiple roles including Deputy Mayor Pro tem and Mayor Pro Tem and later as City Mayor for two terms. She challenged us to develop an appreciation for the past as we plan for our future. The session was followed by a networking reception.

Second General Session - "Planning our Pathway: Visioning 101 through FCS from the Classroom to Nonprofit"
On Friday, Mary Pollinzi Brown, FCS educator and Program Director of Attitudes and Attire, shared how her thirty years as a family and consumer sciences classroom teacher prepared her to work with women experiencing non-normative crises and assisting them in finding a place of “self-sufficiency” through her work at Attitudes Attire. She emphasized the importance of mentorship and networking in setting and achieving goals.

The Winners are ...
by Barbara Ware

The North Texas Business Section of the AAFCS-TX each year awards a scholarship to Texas students majoring in an area of Family and Consumer Sciences at a Texas college or university. The scholarship is in memory of Donna Culliton, a beloved member of Texas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and the North Texas Business Section who died from breast cancer. To honor her and her passion for family and consumer sciences and education, NTBS created the Donna Culliton Memorial Scholarship.

For the past three years this scholarship made it possible for students to participate in the annual AAFCS-TX state conference and paid for their AAFCS student membership. This year Taylor Carroll, a sophomore, Apparel Merchandising student at Baylor University, and Kelli Pittcock, a Family and Consumer Sciences Education student at Texas Tech were selected and accepted the award. Taylor's faculty sponsor is Dr. Lorynn Divita; Kelly's is Dr. Barbara Allison.
Texas Affiliate Presents Awards
Nancy Shepherd, President-Elect

"Knowledge is in the end based on acknowledgement."
- Ludwig Wittgenstein

Each year at the Affiliate conference we honor individuals and organizations who have impacted the lives of individuals, families and their communities. Outstanding people in family and consumer sciences professions are recognized with our special association supported awards of excellence. Recipients may also be honored on the National level competing with award winners from other states.

2014 Award Recipients

- Patti Rambo and Dr. Jay Yoo - Professional of the Year
- Frances Hare - Leader of the Year
- Lyn Berman with Attitude and Attire - Light For Families

Forms are available on our website to nominate colleagues and worthy individuals or organizations. [http://tafc.org/awards/](http://tafc.org/awards/)

The awards include:

- Professional of the Year - the highest honor given by the state association each year and was initiated by AAFCS - Texas Affiliate. Members of any professional section or division are eligible. The recipient should have made major contributions to the family and consumer sciences profession, displayed leadership abilities, been active in the association and be highly respected by his/her peers.

- Leader of the Year - Initiated by AAFCS, this award is designed to identify and honor family and consumer sciences professionals who have made significant contributions to the field through their involvement with AAFCS.

- New Achiever - This award is designed to recognize family and consumer sciences professionals who have exhibited the potential to make significant contributions to family and consumer sciences. Nominees must have at least three years of service to the field, but no more than eight years of service to the field.

- Teacher of the Year - Nominees are evaluated on exemplary programs and/or teaching methods and techniques in family and consumer sciences; development and implementation of family and consumer science concepts and principles; impact of program and teaching on individuals, families and/or communities; integration of family and consumer sciences subjects with other related disciplines; and teacher effectiveness in stimulating student growth in and out of the classroom.

- Friend of the Family - The Friend of the Family Award is to recognize an individual or organization involved at the local or state level in the policy-
making process whose work over time has made significant contributions that affect the well-being of Texas families.

- Light for Families - Lights for Families is a collaborative project of AAFCS - Texas Affiliate and various sponsoring power companies. "Lights for Families" recognizes individuals who are valuable "lights" to the families that they reach within their own communities. Together, we are LIGHTING THE WAY for Texas families!

Now is the time to nominate leaders and professionals who have shared their time and expertise to further the mission of AAFCS- Texas Affiliate.

Meet Me In St. Louis

by Nancy Shepherd, President-Elect

Global Gateway to Healthy and Sustainable Families
is the theme for the AAFCS Conference in St. Louis, June 25-28th at the Hyatt Regency and Conference Center in downtown St. Louis. Have you registered yet? This is a direct link to the conference page where you will find the program at a glance, registration link and details about all the wonderful pre-conference events................. http://www.aafcs.org/meetings/14/reg.html

Here are some highlights of this years' conference:

- Check out the opportunity to save on your registration by participating in the Bring a Buddy program. We want you to share the benefits of conference attendance with a new member or a friend or colleague who hasn't attended in awhile.
- Utilize the Conference ROI Toolkit-- this is designed to help convince your boss you must attend!
- A new event----don't forget to pack a black dress for The Little Black Dress and Tie on Thursday evening.
- Texas is well represented with over 10 education sessions presented by our members, many serve on committees and look for outstanding research presented in poster sessions. Brittany Ogden, a student from Stephen F. Austin State University is also a National Student Leader!! Go Brittany........
- The outstanding keynote speakers bring a global perspective to the issues of families and you will enjoy the friendly city of St. Louis and the convenience of local attractions.
- Watch for details about a Texas dinner at conference --------------
- Please email Janet Rodriguez using the affiliate email txAAFCS@gmail.com if you are attending so we can pass along the details!

AAFCS- Texas Board At Work:

Board of Directors Meeting Highlights
Frances Hare, CFCS Retired

The Board of Directors met prior to the 96th State Conference on Wednesday, March 5, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas in Richardson. Officer and
Committee Chair reports were submitted electronically. Highlights of the meeting included:

- Texas Family & Consumer Sciences Journal was discussed at length in regard to security and acknowledgement of submissions, financing, electronic publishing, who purchases the publication, and placement on the Web site.
- Future sites for the state conference were discussed with San Antonio the site for 2015 and Bryan/College Station for 2016.
- Janet Rodriguez, CFCS is the new Executive Director; therefore her position as VP Professional Development is vacant for the San Antonio conference. President Olle will contact suggested members to fill the position.
- With the resignation of Donna Pharris as Treasurer, Patti Rambo, CFCS Finance Committee Chair will fill in as needed until the end of the fiscal year. Joyce Cavanagh, CPFFE will be the Finance Committee Chair effective June 1, the position normally held by the outgoing Treasurer.
- President Elect Nancy Shepherd will create a Task Force of three (2 non-officer members and 1 nonmember) to identify and examine the on-going challenges the affiliate has faced the past few years, and make specific recommendations to the Board.
- Official name of the newsletter is AAFCS-TX Action. This will be included in the Officer Handbook.

**General Assembly Business Meeting - Summary**
Frances Hare, CFCS Retired, Secretary

The General Assembly of Members met Friday, March 7, 2014 with President Mary Olle presiding. President Olle gave an overview of the year including the transitions and challenges of hiring a new Executive Director and the resignation of Treasurer Donna Pharris. President Olle expressed her sincere thanks to the Board and all committee members for pulling together to get us through these challenges. She gave special recognition to Joyce Armstrong, CFCS Vice President Professional Development, Sheri Dragoo General Arrangement Chair and their committee for putting together a very successful State Conference.

Officers and Committee Chairs gave brief reports. President Elect Nancy Shepherd is on the national team to provide feedback from the affiliates regarding the proposed academy concept. Vice President Academic Affairs Lisa Kennon reported the call for manuscripts for the Texas Family & Consumer Sciences Journal will be on the Web site soon. All four districts held successful meetings this year. Executive Director Rodriguez, CFCS announced the 2015 State Conference will be in San Antonio and the 2016 State Conference will be in Bryan/College Station.

The Proposed Budget for 2014-15 was approved. Proposed Bylaws Amendments were approved. Notable changes are that emeritus members can hold office (not eligible on national level), and district officers will be elected at district meetings rather than on the state ballot. Secretary Frances Hare, CFCS gave a preview of the redesigned Web site which will be launched soon.

**AAFCS-TX Is Here For You**
Nancy Shepherd, President-Elect

It is time for us to consider how to grow and improve. According to Charles Handy, "Not all organizations adapt equally well to the environment within which they
grow. Many, like the dinosaur of great size but little brain, remain unchanged in a changing world”. Sustaining our profession requires careful consideration and handling of our resources. As we develop our future leaders let us open our minds to consider that doing the same thing over and over again will give us the same results. So I ask you to go beyond best practices that are familiar to “Next practices” which are innovative and future oriented. Even a well-establish institution like AAFCS can evolve rapidly when issues are addressed head-on. I am appointing a task force to recommend next practices to evolve our organization and be more effective for our members.

What do you want from your organization? Listening is an important part of communication so watch for a survey to help us better understand your needs, dreams and concerns and please participate. As leaders we will spend time speaking up and speaking out to you. But we must understand the impact of our words and actions. Expect to hear from your leaders, your organization and we expect to hear back from you.

Counselor’s Report
Jaylie Beckenhauer, CFCS

The Assembly of Members approved the proposed amendments to the AAFCS - TX Bylaws on March 7, 2014. Amendments include terminology, member categories, and community language that align with AAFCS changes in the past four years. Texas Affiliate additionally made changes to allow emeritus members to hold office and to allow District officer elections to be held at district meetings instead of the state ballot. Visit our website tafcs.org to download and save the finalized document.

As I rotate off the AAFCS - Texas Board June 1, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your affiliate President Elect, President, and Counselor. I couldn't have asked for better officers with whom to work! Each of them has been extremely supportive and vital by fulfilling their positions with enthusiasm. And I appreciate the cooperation from all members in helping us move forward into our second century as an organization. Without everyone's commitment to the profession and the organization, we would not have celebrated the century mark.

Now as we move forward, I hope everyone will grow their commitment by maintaining their vision of what we can achieve together as professionals, from students through practicing and retired members. We all see different pieces to the vision and have varied roles in fulfilling that vision. Each and every member is important!

Each of you shows your commitment to AAFCS - TX through supporting family and consumer sciences at the local, state, and national levels. Whether that means nominating fellow professionals for an award, running for office yourself, serving on committees, attending district and state meetings, or simply renewing your membership yearly. Everyone has a part to play! I encourage you to enjoy yours to the upmost.

Share Your Expertise and Talents
Affiliate Officer Vacancies:
VP Marketing - promote the excellent work of our profession
VP Member Relations - responsible for member honors and awards, conference banquet
VP Professional Development - organize our 2015 conference in San Antonio
For more information, visit the website www.tafcs.org and contact Nancy Shepherd, AAFCS-TX President Elect at shepherdn@sfasu.edu.

Mark Your Calendar

97th Annual State Conference
March 5-8, 2015
Menger Hotel, San Antonio

98th Annual State Conference
Date TBA
Bryan College Station Area

2014-2015 Summer Board Meeting
June 13 & 14, 2014
Menger Hotel, San Antonio

District Meetings TBA

Thanks to the Contributing writers:

- Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D, CFCS - VP Professional Development
- Frances Hare, CFCS - AAFCS-TX Secretary
- Nancy Shepherd, AAFCS-TX President Elect
- Jaylie Beckenhauer - CFCS, AAFCS-TX Counselor
- Barbara Ware - North Texas Business Section

Follow us on

AAFCS-Texas | 210-522-9527 | txaafcs@gmail.com | http://www.tafcs.org
P.O Box 380
Helotes, TX 78023