



NEAFCS-AR

February 2013

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President's Message



When the upcoming centennial of the Smith-Lever Act was mentioned at the recent FCS Conference I had to smile! The 1914 legislation that established Extension is responsible for my job! All Extension professionals might make that claim; however in my case it's uniquely true.

In 2002 I was teaching high school Family and Consumer Sciences and taking an evening graduate class in vocational education. I was studying with my Ag teacher counterparts who were struggling with the particulars of vocational legislation, including the Smith-Lever Act.

Trying to help, I volunteered a tip. "I remember the Smith-Lever Act by saying if I had any leverage I could get a job with Extension". The guys smiled broadly and said, "Did you know there's an opening in Poinsett County?" The rest is history!

I've come to love history! Last year I learned so much during the 100th Anniversary of Extension Homemakers. I found out that Leila Culberhouse, the first Home Demonstration Agent in Craighead County, helped establish a county fair in 1916. Newspaper accounts note she "was instrumental in getting a horse track built around the fair's perimeter". Closer study revealed Miss Leila was an accomplished equestrian and supplemented her Extension salary by racing on the weekends!

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I hope you'll take the opportunity to read the brief history of our affiliate that is posted on our www.uaex.edu website and SPOT group, courtesy of Candice Carrie'.

It is interesting to note that the association was established in 1940, making 2015 our 75th anniversary. (We were obviously too busy getting Home Demonstration Clubs and 4-H Clubs started the first 25 years to get our own organization going!) According to the historical account, the Arkansas Association of Home Demonstration Agents chartered a bus and went together to the national conference. There may be a lesson here!

As FCS Extension professionals, we have so much to celebrate! There's no telling what gems will be discovered as we explore our affiliate's past and make our own marks on history.

Sincerely,



Debbie DeRossitte

4-H Scholarship Silent Auction a Great Success!

Keith Cleek, VP for Professional Development and chair of the silent auction, reports that \$662 was raised at the FCS Conference for the 2013 4-H Scholarship Fund! According to Jane Newton, affiliate Treasurer; this brings the total scholarship fund to an amazing \$1135! Jeri Vangilder and members of the affiliate's 4-H Scholarship Committee join Keith (and Dr. Anne Sortor) in appreciation to members who brought items and to those who purchased them. Great job!

Congratulations Corner

Keith Cleek has been reassigned as the Delta Area Extension Agent –EFNEP. He will serve as the area coordinator with responsibilities focusing on curriculum training. As the VP for Professional Development in our organization, Keith always does an outstanding job. Congratulations, Keith!

Membership Nears 100%

The numbers are in and it appears that membership is up 30% from last year! The 2013 membership stands at 87 including 9 life members. Delta District and Ouachita District were recognized for 100% membership. Ozark District reached 96%. Congratulations to members of the Member Resource Committee, Membership Rally Committee, District and Alternate District Directors, and to everyone who worked toward meeting and exceeding our membership goals!

Retiree Initiative

Pam Pruett and members of the Retiree Initiative Committee were able to secure members' signatures on a card for the 65 NEAFCS-AR retirees at an attractive exhibit at the FCS conference. A total of \$157.60 was raised through the M.E.N.T.O.R. game to pay for printing, envelopes and postage. Well deserved thanks go to Keith Cleek who donated the gift basket prize received by Holly Valentine.

Arkansas Cookbook Collection Project

The University of Arkansas Library is launching The Arkansas Cookbook Project to collect “materials that document the history and culture of cuisine in Arkansas”. They are requesting cookbooks that contain recipes from Arkansas cooks. Community cookbooks, such as those from EHC, churches, local organizations, and antique family cookbooks are included.

As an affiliate, we have committed to a 75-cookbook donation (one per county) in honor of our upcoming 75th year. If your Extension Homemakers’ Council has created a cookbook in recent years, consider donating one to the project from your county.

This donation of cookbooks for the University of Arkansas project should be packed separately from those cookbooks you might donate to the cookbook fundraiser. **Bring your cookbooks for the U of A Arkansas Cookbook Collection Project to the AEHC State Conference in June.** These will be delivered to the Fayetteville campus during State O’Rama.



Cookbook Fundraiser

Who doesn’t love cookbooks? As a fundraiser for special projects related to our 75th anniversary, we will be collecting “gently used” cookbooks for a cookbook sale. (This is not to be confused with the U of A Cookbook Collection Project.)

When and Where?

March 13 -Bring your cookbooks to the AEHC Spring Workshop at the 4-H Center

June 4 –Bring cookbooks to the AEHC State Conference in Hot Springs.

Come ready to browse and buy the cookbooks you need!

Audit Committee Report

Elizabeth McGinley, affiliate Treasurer-elect, reported that the audit committee met during the FCS conference to audit the NEAFCS-AR accounts. Records were found in good order according to their official report.

Susan Pickle to Serve as Vice President for Public Affairs

Susan Pickle, previous past president, has been appointed to finish the balance of the open term for Vice President for Public Affairs. The position was previously held by Lameria Colclough-Tripplett.



(left to right) Robbie McKinnon, Shirlye Hopkins, and Elizabeth McGinley at the FCS Conference in January.

Twenty-five New Members Inducted into NEAFCS-AR

Dr. Anne Sortor joined affiliate president, president-elect, and vice presidents in a special ceremony to induct NEAFCS-AR's fourteen newest members including: Julie Blair, Mary Jane Cody, Rachel Chaney, Rosalind Donson, Tracy Fall, Sloane Holzhauser, Marsha Horton, Charlet Jones, Dana Kelly, Julian King, JoAnn Vann, Jessica Vest, Jessica Vincent and Joy West.

Also recognized were eleven members who joined the affiliate in 2011 and 2012 including: Tara Askins, Dianna Bowen, Ashley Carroll, Regina Chaney, Ashley Durden, Karla Emerson, Ana Hollis, Pam Pruett, Heather Day Reed, Amber Runsnick and Holly Valentine.

The induction ceremony featured the history of the organization. All twenty-five participants received certificates, association pins, and a gift. Pins, purchased by Dr. Sortor, were also presented to every NEAFCS-AR member in attendance.



Dr. Anne Sortor inducts new members into NEAFCS-AR at FCS Conference in January

March is Living Well Month

Linda Floyd Chappell and the Living Well Ad Hoc Committee distributed a brochure at the Conference which identified several ways for NEAFCS-AR members to promote our professions. Each member is challenged to complete one or more of the suggested activities during March and report results.

To the many of you who have already added the Living Well logo to your email signature line - Great Job!

Raising kids
Eating right
Spending smart



NEAFCS -AR Officers

President –
Debbie DeRossitte

President Elect – Kris Elliott

Vice President for Awards and Recognition –
Becky Reynolds

Vice President for Member Resources – Carla Haley

Vice President for Professional Development –
Keith Cleek

Vice President for Public Affairs / Past President –
Susan Pickle

Secretary – Lisa Washburn

Treasurer – Jane Newton

Treasurer Elect –
Elizabeth McGinley

Parliamentarian –
Cheryl Maxwell

District Directors:

Delta	Shea Wilson
Delta (alt)	Dianna Bowen
Ouachita	Jean Ince
Ouachita (alt)	Diane Clement
Ozark	Trudy McManus
Ozark (alt)	Ashley Terry

A complete description of committee responsibilities can be found on the NEAFCS-AR Affiliate SPOT group.