



NEAFCS-AR

May 2013

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President's Message



Registering for the Arkansas Extension Homemakers Conference struck a different chord with me this year. It reminded me that my term of NEAFCS-AR president will come to an end when we gather together in Hot Springs. It has been an incredible year and I want to use this space, my last column, to thank you for your support!

To those of you who served this year as officers and committee chairs, I am indebted to you for your willing hands and patient hearts! Your leadership skills helped to sharpen mine.

To our "seasoned" members, I want to say thank you for helping me to understand our traditions and our history. Your insights were invaluable! Viewed through your eyes, I saw the organization's strengths in a new light.

To our newest members, I want to say I appreciate your questions. So many times, your inquiries challenged me to stretch my own knowledge of the organization. Thanks to your engagement, we now have the equivalent of a members' manual on the NEAFCS-AR Member SPOT group.

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Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank the CES District Directors for their part in the growth of our affiliate to near 100%! It is the combination of members' experience and new enthusiasm that has made this a memorable year for our affiliate and for me!

Sincerely,



Debbie DeRossitte



Holly Valentine (left) received the Environmental Education Award from Debbie DeRossitte, NEAFCS-AR President, at Galaxy Conference. This was one of five individual awards that Holly received that day.

2013 AEHC Meeting -Busy Time for NEAFCS-AR Members and FCS Retirees

This year the Arkansas Extension Homemakers conference in Hot Springs holds many opportunities for NEAFCS-AR members and to FCS retirees who would like to be involved. In addition to the annual business meeting, the affiliate will be conducting a cookbook sale and preparing cookbook donations for the Arkansas Cookbook Collections.

Here are a few reminders:

- The AEHC meeting begins on Tuesday, June 4th with red t-shirt day. Remember to drop off your cookbook donations at the NEAFCS-AR booth when you arrive. Please separate the ones you have for the Arkansas Cookbook Collection from those earmarked for the sale. If you arrive early, any help you can offer setting up the cookbook booth will be appreciated. (More information on the cookbook project on the SPOT group).
- Chris Meux in Communications is designing a special label for the NEAFCS-AR donations for the Arkansas Cookbook Collection. These will be available at the cookbook booth.
- Plan to donate at least 1 hour of your time on Tuesday, June 4th or Wednesday, June 5th to work in the cookbook sale booth. Terrie James will be sending a survey to help set a schedule.
- The annual NEAFCS-AR business meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5th at 1:30 p.m. in the DeSoto room of the Austin Hotel. This is a very important meeting. Please make plans to attend!
- Donations of thin reusable grocery totes are being solicited for cookbook sale. EHC members will be given a conference bag at registration, however it is anticipated that other groups meeting at the convention center will be shopping as well. If you have extras from conferences or health fairs, this is a good way to recycle them.

Updates from Arkansas Galaxy Conference

The NEAFCS-AR meeting held on March 27, 2013 at Winrock Institute in Petit Jean was attended by 49 active members, one potential member and one retiree. Committee reports were presented on a power point, "State of Our Affiliate", which has been posted on the NEAFCS-AR SPOT group under "Strategic Plan 2012-13"..

Minutes of the meeting are posted on the SPOT group under "Arkansas Galaxy 2013".

New officers were presented by the nomination committee and elected unanimously. The following officers will be installed at the June 5th meeting in Hot Springs:

President – Kris Elliott
 President elect – Linda Floyd Chappell
 Vice President for Awards and Recognition – Iris Phifer
 Vice President for Professional Development – Terrie James
 Secretary – Leigh Ann Bullington



Millie Collins (left) received the Distinguished Service Award from Debbie DeRossitte, NEAFCS-AR President, at Galaxy Conference

Other officers who will continue for one more year include:

Vice President for Member Resources – Carla Haley
 Vice President for Public Affairs / Immediate Past President– Debbie DeRossitte
 Treasurer – Jane Newton.

Certificates were presented to state level award winners at the affiliate meeting. Distinguished Service Award, Continuing Education Award and New Professional Award were presented at the awards banquet on March 28th. To see a complete list of award winners, go to the NEAFCS-AR page in SPOT.

Dana Kelly Receives NEAFCS Southern Region Award

Dana Kelly, Randolph County FCS agent and one of the newest members of NEAFCS-AR, received the 2nd place Communication Award for Written Press Release! Great job!



Dana Kelly (left) received the Communication Award for Written Press Release from Debbie DeRossitte, NEAFCS-AR President, at Galaxy Conference

Raising kids
 Eating right
 Spending smart

Living Well™

Committee Positions Open

Several committee positions will be available due to the rotation system that was reestablished for FY13. Committee members from the Ozark District and at-large committee members will complete their 2012-13 terms. This is a great time to get involved with a new committee and gain a more in-depth understanding of the organization.

There is a place on a committee for every member. Check out the committee descriptions on the NEAFCS-AR Member SPOT group under "Committees" and get involved!

Early Bird Deadline for Galaxy IV is July 15, 2013

Every five years NEAFCS joins with the other JCEP organizations to host a national professional improvement conference called Galaxy. In 2013 the Galaxy IV conference will be held in Pittsburg, PA from September 16-20. The next NEAFCS annual session will be held in Lexington, KY from September 15-19, 2014.



Linda Floyd Chappell (left) received the Continued Service Award from Debbie DeRossitte, NEAFCS-AR President, at Galaxy Conference

Resolutions Committee

Susan Pickle (Ozark), Debbie Baker (Delta) and Michelle Carter (Ouachita) have been charged with formulating resolutions* for 2013. If you have suggestions please contact them. They will be presenting resolutions for membership approval at the June 5th meeting in Hot Springs.

*Each year, our professional organizations are able to submit resolutions (suggestions) to the CES administration for consideration. For a list of resolutions presented in 2011 and 2012, look on the affiliate SPOT group under "Resolutions".

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

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.