

extension

Message from OEAFCs President



Ginny McCarthick
OEAFCs President



Happy Holidays, OEAFCs! I hope that you are looking forward to this special time of the year with your family and friends. Hope you enjoyed the recently held in-service in Norman. I found it to be a stimulating conference and I know that everyone enjoyed getting together and spending time with old friends across the state.

The NEAFCS Program Development Committee has issued an invitation to NEAFCS members to submit proposals for concurrent sessions and Showcase of Excellence. You can submit a proposal as an individual or as a team. There are so many good programs provided by our OEAFCs members. Why not share them with others across the nation? The deadline to complete an application is January 31, 2012. More information is available at the NEAFCS website or go to this link: <http://neafcs.org/members-presentations-faq.asp> for details.

We will soon be wrapping up the year at our OEAFCs Spring Business meeting and it will again be time to choose a committee in which to serve. I am listing some guidelines to help you decide which committee would be best for you.

Do you like being an advocate for Extension? Look at joining the Public Affairs Committees! Want to help out planning our Annual Meeting in April? Join a Professional Development Committee!

Like to be a part of rewarding others for their good works? Want to be a part of the planning of the special Awards Ceremony at our Annual Meeting? Join an Awards Committee!

Want to help motivate others to join our association? Join a Member Resource Committee! Are you interested in keeping tabs on our funds? Then the Finance Committee needs you!

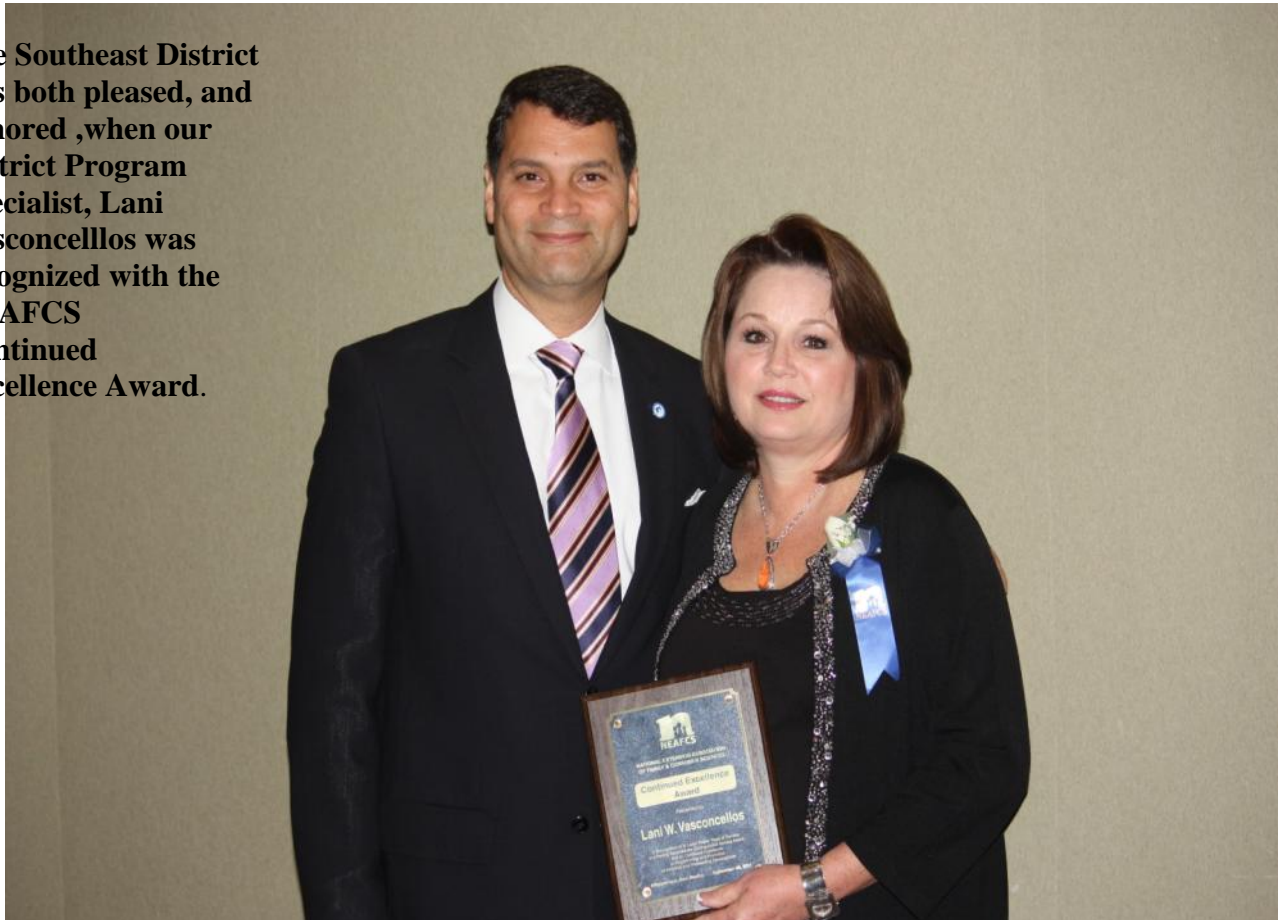
We will be meeting in January during Extension Conference for the OEAFCs Winter Business Meeting. I hope that you have been an active part of your current committee and you come with good ideas to make 2012 the best year ever for OEAFCs.

I look forward to seeing you then and *Happy Holidays* from my house to yours!



Southeast District—Tommie James, District Director

The Southeast District was both pleased, and honored, when our District Program Specialist, Lani Vasconcellos was recognized with the NEAFCS Continued Excellence Award.



In the southeast district, we had seven members who attended the NEAFCS Annual Session held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lani Vasconcellos was honored with the NEAFCS Continued Excellence Award and Cindy Clampet was honored the NEAFCS Distinguished Service Award. Tommie M. James presented a concurrent session on her “Oklahoma Native American Cooking” program. Congratulations ladies!

Back in June, we honored and said our farewells to one of our long time members and co-workers, Laverda Johnson. We presented Laverda with a large crystals bowl as her retirement gift. I spoke with Laverda the other day. She sounded rested and very happy. She is currently remodeling her kitchen.

The Southeast District met during the November in-service training in Norman and elected Sue Hamilton as our new District Director. We have lots of confidence in Sue’s ability to handle our district’s details and thank her for her willingness to serve.

The Southeast District educators would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and productive New Year!



Charlotte Richert—VP For Professional Development

Mark your calendars for April 12-13, 2012 when we gather for our annual Spring Association Meeting.

Our featured speaker First Lady, Ann Hargis, will inspire and delight you. The new format of this year's conference provides even more opportunity to rest, rejuvenate, and renovate your career. Accept the challenge to continue as the leader in community partnerships that impact families; relax in the newly remodeled Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City and enjoy the hospitality room; discover programs and ideas that have been highly successful, and focus on the future of family and consumer sciences. This conference is designed with your success in mind. Watch for more details!

Jean Bailey—VP for Awards and Recognition

All state OEFACS awards are due by January 15, 2012. Go to the Awards Manual at www.neafcs.org to find guidelines and examples for award applications.

Several changes have been made for this year's awards. The changes for 2012 are:

Greenwood Frysinger Award – Combines the former individual awards – new focus: mentoring

Educator of the Year – Plaque award

ACI Clean Homes renamed **Clean and Healthy Families & Communities Award**

Healthy Lifestyles Grant has been discontinued

There are also several new awards -

New Awards for 2012

Communication Awards have added a category for Photography

Family Health & Wellness Award — Recognizes innovative programs that promote and improve the health and wellness of families in areas such as nutrition, fitness, family meals, meal planning, time or stress management, healthy lifestyle and more.

Human Development / Family Relationships Award — Recognizes innovative human development / family relationship educational efforts. Focus includes child care; parenting; relationships through the life span; marriage enrichment; communications (parent/child); retirement; aging; stress management; and related issues.

School Wellness Award — Recognizes outstanding school-based programs to promote and improve physical, emotional, and/or social wellness of students, staff or families of students in the school community. The use of partnerships or collaborations, evidence of program impact and sustainability are part of the evaluation criteria. Programs may include: nutrition, fitness, garden-based nutrition education, health, character education, self esteem, farm-to-school, and more.

Social Networking Award — Recognizes innovative online social networking efforts. The network must include three or more of the following applications: videos, educational links, events, photos, followers, or open forums.

The OEFACS membership has been very supportive in sponsoring awards at the state level. Many people have already donated to the 2012 awards program through last year's conference registration and we are very grateful. You can still contact me if you would like to sponsor an award this year. Awards can be sponsored for as little as \$20.

I look forward to receiving your award applications by January 15th. I know that Oklahoma Extension is involved in outstanding programming. Be sure to fill out the award applications and showcase the great work being done across Oklahoma.



OEAFCFS Members “Fly High” in Alberque

Congratulations to those who received awards at the national conference:

Communications – television: Casey Elizabeth Campbell – 2nd place Southern Region Winner and 2nd place National Winner.

Distinguished Service Award – Joy L. Rhodes; and Cindy Lea Clampet

Continued Excellence Award – Lani W. Vasconcellos; and Recia F. Garcia

Northeast District—Gale Mills, District Director

Greetings from the NE district where we have 27 members. We have had numerous personnel changes over the past several months. OEAFCFS was pleased to welcome Tracy Lane to our association in April, 2010 and now we are pleased to announce that she has moved over to the FCS position from the 4-H position effective 5/23/11. In addition, Mayes County is lucky to have Jan Dawson as the FCS/4-H educator coming from Arkansas Extension effective 6/20/11.

All of us will surely miss Cindy Griffith FCS educator from Rogers county as she retired on July 29, 2011. Nowata County filled their FCS/4-H educator position with Penny King transferring from Sequoyah County. That leaves us with 2 vacancies at the present time – an FCS educator position in Rogers County and an FCS/4-H educator position in Sequoyah County.

We are delighted to announce the following births to educators in the NE district:

- Trinity Brown, FCS/4-H Educator in Pawnee County gave birth to a girl, Kensley Renea on September 17 weighing 8 pounds 7 ½ oz and was 21 inches long.

Melanie Taylor, FCS Educator in McIntosh County gave birth to a girl, Maggie born 7 ½ weeks early on October 24. Was in neonatal intensive care in Tulsa and is doing well.



Educator promotions:

With the retirement of so many FCS educators back in 2003 there were no female CED's in our district. Now we have a total of 7 with the new ones added as follows:

- Virginia Stanley, FCS educator in Muskogee County now interim CED as of 4/1/11
- Kathy Enyart, FCS/4-H educator in Ottawa County now CED as of 5/1/11
- Jessica Riggan, FCS educator in Lincoln County now CED as of 5/1/11

We welcomed New Member Kimberly Williams, Program Evaluation Specialist as she joined OEAFCFS at the close of the April OEAFCFS meeting in OKC.

Lastly we are pleased to announce an Ambassador Grant recipient for “Kitchens Are for Cooking” by NE educators - Jan Maples, Jessica Riggins and Melody Ennis.



Living Well Cookbook Report Gale Mills, Chairman

OEAFCFS members now is the time to purchase one of these books for Christmas gifts. The price is just \$20 each and is a real bargain and great gift for that someone you don't know what to get.

District Directors (Gale Mills, Tommie James, Liz McBee and Brenda Gandy) are handling the sale of these books within the state.

LIVING WELL.....More than a cookbook

National Association Meeting “Snap Shots”



You've got to be kidding..they want THAT in my plan of work ????

Tommy James, Lynn Beam and Jessica Rigglin share time together over dinner



Dr. Atilas and co-workers, Brenda Gandy and Susan Routh, enjoying a chat and some smiles



Joy Rhodes, Dr. Atilas and Cindy Clampet pose for the camera after receiving awards



Albuquerque will never be the same after this crew!

Northwest District Report
Liz Gardner-McBee, NW District Director

Fortunately all FCS Educator vacancies in the Northwest District have been filled. Please take some time to welcome our two new FCS Educators: Lindsay Grace in Kay Co. and Lindsey Miner in Noble County.

There are two posted open positions in Texas County, Guymon, Oklahoma: Program Supervisor/Coordinator -- Parent Child Connections Program, and Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development (.50 FTE).

Attending NEAFCS Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico were Arleen James, Joy Rhodes, and Liz Gardner-McBee. NEAFCS Professional Development Award Winners were Recia Garcia--*Continued Excellence Award* and Joy Rhodes--*Distinguished Service Award*. Congratulations!



Southwest District Report
Brenda Gandy, District Director

Congratulations are in order for Mickey Simpson, Susan Moffat, Phillis Cothren and Dr Eileen St Pierre who were honored with a five page article on "Reality Check: OK Extension Helps Teachers Meet Financial Education Requirements" published in the Family & Consumer Sciences Journal, Vol. 103

Welcome new FCS educators to the Southwest District, Anne King- Comanche County, Cheryl Lively – Greer County, Brenda Hill- Canadian County, Lynn Null, and Stephanie McSparrin –Beckham County.

Currently the only vacant FCS Position in the Southwest is Roger Mills County.

Our work in Extension involves "giving" to others every day but there is something magical about giving during this time of year so here is a quote to remember , it sounds like a good way to live:

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.



A Message from our Advisor Dr. Jorge Atilas

Dear OEAFCS members.

It was great seeing all of the Oklahoma delegates attending the NEAFCS Annual Conference in Albuquerque. It feels us with pride each time we see you receive an award at this national conference each year. The theme for the conference was “Guiding Extension Professionals along the Route to Empowerment” and is quite fitting to our goals and aspirations. With our new issue teams taking off we know our challenges will be great but we are talented and committed to strengthening Oklahoma families.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the great job you do. I appreciate your hard work and devotion to Family and Consumer Sciences.

Sincerely,

Jorge H. Atilas, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Extension & Engagement
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service
College of Human Sciences



Debbie Sharp—Vice-President for Public Affairs

A special “Thank You” to Sue Hamilton for attending the Public Affairs meeting during the NEAFCS Annual Conference in Albuquerque. I wasn’t able to attend the meeting and Sue set in my place, bringing home information related to this committee’s work.

The National push is to continue the Living Well campaign. Resources can be found on the NEAFCS website under the member’s section. Using the “Living Well” tagline on emails and correspondence is recommended. Check out the web for other suggestions.

NEAFCS has a template to use for developing impact statements. The association highly recommends that each member consider developing statements to present to stakeholders on the state, local and federal levels. The national office would also like to have copies of these reports to combine into one national “picture” of our work.

Another recommendation is to place an “elevator speech” on the back of business cards. Below is the “official” Oklahoma speech developed by Karen Armbruster. Simply delete the opening sentence (this was designed for conversation with someone) and you’re ready to go!

I work for the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, an “extension” of Oklahoma State University in _____ County.

As an Extension Educator I work to strengthen Oklahoma families and communities using research based information that applies to families and their everyday life issues on health, finances and relationships.

Here’s my card; please contact me if you would like a program or more information.

