

# Oregon FCE News

Volume 28 Issue 1

Oregon Association for Family & Community Education

January 2021

## President's Comments



The year of 2020 brought us a year that all of us will never forget. We have seen the very best of people and, at times unfortunately, the worst of people. The COVID-19 virus has and will change our lives forever. We have all learned to do things that we never thought that we could do.

We have found ways to safely hold activities that we may have never thought about. We have learned how to do things to protect us from this virus, and it has made our lives difficult, but I am sure that each of us, using wisdom, physical strength and spiritual strength we will all endure this tragic event.

I hope that each one of our Oregon FCE members are safe and that they are doing all that they can do to remain strong and safe. Every day my prayers go out for, not only the FCE members but for all the people of the world in this battle against COVID-19.

Bonnie and I are doing well considering all of the challenges that we, along with everyone else, have faced. We are both as healthy as can be expected except for a tough experience with COVID-19, starting December 11, 2020. Our store, Keeper's Corner was closed for 8 weeks because of the COVID shutdowns but we are now open and doing well. Due to some of the KC staff moving away, Bonnie is working quite a bit at Keeper's Corner. I have not been subbing or sport officiating because of the COVID-19 situations. I, like many others, have been busy purging unneeded items from our life. I have also taken the time to work in my shop and get lots of items built to sell at Keeper's Corner. Bonnie and I did find some time and did get to do

some camping and fishing during the summer and fall months.

I did not have the opportunity to visit many of the Oregon FCE events in this spring and summer because most of them had been canceled. I have plans to attend as many of the District, County, and other various activities as soon as I can. I miss those visits but fully understand why they have been postponed or canceled.

Although most of our FCE events across the state have been canceled the last months, since March, I have seen and heard of many great things that our members, Study Groups, and FCE Leadership members have done in these tough times. Some, but not all, of the things they have done include:

- Checking on the health and welfare of people within their communities.
- Sewing and distributing mask everywhere.
- Helping those in need after their losses in the tragic fires that effected Oregon.
- Learned how to still participate in activities by using Video and Audio Conferencing.
- Helped in our families and our communities while still doing those things we need to do to remain safe
- Still had an Oregon FCE Newsletter written and distributed to members.
- Many Groups have started meeting again while using mask, good social distancing, and good hygiene including washing hands often. If you are meeting, please be safe.
- Your Oregon FCE Board held a 2020 Fall Board meeting, via phone conference during November. Many things were accomplished. The minutes of the meeting were sent out and were also posted on the Oregon FCE website.

It has been a real struggle for me this year to accomplish all that I had planned to do for Oregon FCE. Although most FCE activities had been canceled I still got several things done. They include:

- Formally canceled the 2020 Oregon FCE Fall Conference. Worked with the hotel we

had made reservations at and have renewed those reservations and arrangements for the 2021 Oregon FCE Fall Conference.

- Tried to communicate with Oregon FCE members throughout the state and Nation.
- Contacted those that may have been or were affected by the terrible fires in Oregon.
- With help of many other FCE members, set up a monthly ZOOM meeting lesson. They are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month starting in January 2021.
- Worked with those members and Study Groups that were struggling due to the COVID-19 crises.
- Maintained a good financial basis for Oregon FCE through prudent spending and the continuing fund-raising efforts with the booth at Keeper's Corner.
- Worked at letting all Oregon FCE members know of the various scholarships and other help that Oregon FCE members can use as a financial aid for memberships.
- Sent out numerous emails trying to keep in communication with Oregon FCE members. Those emails included information about the "happenings" of Oregon FCE, Lessons that can be provided, information from ACWW, and other important information.
- Tried to work with those Study Groups that have disbanded or that are considering disbanding for various reasons.
- I have strived to bring the "Spirit of FCE" wherever I went and whoever I communicated with.

Before I close this President's newsletter article, I want to repeat "Scott's Challenge." My challenge to you is to do all that you can do to "Grow" this organization. This is an extremely difficult thing to do in these tough times, but together we can do it. We, as FCE members can make a difference in increasing our membership. Every one of you was "Invited" to join this organization. Now it's your turn. Don't do this great organization a disservice by not inviting others to join. Don't let FCE die. You, each of you, can be the salvation of Oregon FCE.

The third year of my three-year term as the Oregon FCE President has come and gone quickly. It has been a great honor to serve each of you and I

hope you know that I have done it to the best of my abilities. I appreciate all the love and support that each of you have given me, from the individual FCE members up through the many FCE officers. Working together, we can accomplish many great things at all levels of FCE. I look forward to the next three years as your "New" Oregon FCE President.

I am excited about the things that we have done, can do, and will do in Oregon FCE. With all of us working together we can make Oregon FCE all that it can be. **"It is what you will it to be".**

Thanks for all you do,  
Scott Teeples – Oregon FCE President

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## Web Site for Oregon FCE

[www.oregon-fce.org](http://www.oregon-fce.org)

Again, please check out the web site and let me know what you think. There is lots of information and forms available to all members. Have you checked out YOUR County "Invitation to Join" Brochure that is now available. Please contact Scott Teeples at 541-891-6456, or email [sfteeples@charter.net](mailto:sfteeples@charter.net) if you have any comments or questions.

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## Remembering FCE Members

**Ivy Josephine VanEpps**

May 16, 1932 – January 7, 2021

Ivy was a member of the Sheridan FCE Study Group. She grew up around Silver Creek Falls, then Valsetz before moving to Sheridan where she and her husband built their home. Ivy never knew a stranger, she was always ready to listen and lend a helping hand. She loved sewing, ceramics, gardening, camping and hosting FCE members. Ivy will be missed by her many friends and family.



Oregon FCE News is sent 3 X year to FCE members  
paying dues for Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2021.

~Next deadline-May 7, 2021~

Send articles and/or change of address to:

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Amity, OR 97101-2239

E-mail [LYNDATrose@aol.com](mailto:LYNDATrose@aol.com)

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

Lesson: Ireland (the country)

Taught by Anne Engen and Cynthia Gibson

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

Lesson: Writing Your Personal History

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## The Treasurers Bottom Line

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### Oregon FCE Lessons Taught Using ZOOM By Scott Teeples – January 2021

The Oregon FCE Board is excited to announce that we have started a monthly Oregon FCE Lesson that will be presented using the Zoom format. In December 2020 there was an Introduction meeting set up to discuss the possibility of holding these lessons. There were 12 people that attended the meeting. We had some great discussion, and it was decided that we would like to get the lessons started. Some Study Groups and County Councils are already doing some of their meetings via Zoom and they seem to go pretty well.

These lessons will be available for all interested Oregon FCE members, friends of Oregon FCE and FCE members anywhere.

It was decided that we would start having the Oregon FCE Lessons starting in January 2021. They will be on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM. There will be no business meeting and the lesson will last about 45-60 minutes. Scott Teeples will take care of setting up the Zoom meeting and sending out invitations. We would like everyone interested to attend.

The first ZOOM Meeting Lesson, "Setting Time Priorities," was done on January 6, 2021 and taught by Bonnie Teeples. There were 18 that attended including 15 Oregon FCE members, National FCE President (Ardyce Snyder) from North Dakota, National FCE Secretary (Marlene Faul) from Kansas, and Hawaii FCE State President (Ruthie Haisuka). Everyone had the opportunity to comment at the end of the meeting, and they all agreed that it was a great lesson and they are looking forward to the next one.

The following is a schedule for the next two months:

2020 sure brought us to our knees! And some of us to our beds to heal from this horrid virus! It is encouraging to me that not more of our members were ill from COVID, it reassures me that we are doing all within our power to stay healthy.

We have lost several groups this year and I am sure that the inability to meet face to face had a lot to do with the decisions to disband. I hope that we can look to alternate methods to meeting such as virtual meetings, phone calls and group texts. While not perfect, it still allows us to visit with each other.

With the disbanding of some groups, there are members who still want to stay a member even without a group. If you know someone who wants to be a member but does not have a group, have them call me and I can give them information to become an Independent member.

The responsibility for membership growth and stability lies with each one of us. **Please do not use the excuse that we are older and aging out.** There are people out there that need this organization as much as we need them. Please think about the reasons you joined the organization and share those with non-member friends and neighbors to encourage new membership. Do not make a judgement that a person will not want to join. Give them the opportunity to attend an interesting virtual lesson and then invite them to join, you may be surprised!

The fundraising booth has done very well since allowed to reopen May 15, 2020 . We brought in \$1949.57 in 2020 and that is with being closed for eight weeks. When we were able to reopen people came to shop and spend money! I'm sure that some of it is because people can't travel and may be tired of looking at all of the same things in their homes and so they come in to buy something new to them! We are always in need of more items for the booth, so if you have some donations, let me know and I can try to work out a way to get them from you.

Overall, the financial health of Oregon FCE is good. We did not have to take anything out of our investments last year are hoping that we will not have to take money out of our investments for the foreseeable future. We have been able to let all of the CD's roll over, and we are getting a little bit better interest rate than they had prior on a few of them.

I am excited to begin this new year in FCE and hope that we can come together with video conferencing and conference calls to keep our connections strong.

Stay strong, stay healthy and stay happy! FCE needs you!  
[bdteeples@charter.net](mailto:bdteeples@charter.net)

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## Happy New Year all!!

Just think of it; we have a brand-new book before us, 365 pages to write our story for 2021. How will you fill the pages of your book? I am sure we will fill some pages with gratitude for this new year, some pages with regret for some of the things we missed in 2020, and some pages will be filled with the people we love and hopes and dreams for the future. Whatever you decide to write in your book of 2021, make it matter. Make 2021 one of your best years. I am sure that we are going to be in for more of what we had in 2020, but we can choose to make it a better year just by adjusting our attitude and looking for the good in everything around us.

One of the better things that came out of 2020 for me was that I took the opportunity during the stay-at-home mandate to make some changes in my attitude toward what was happening all around me. I was upset at having to close my store, upset for the vendors loss of sales, upset I could not go on all of my ACWW visits around the nation for conferences and meetings. When I analyzed my attitude, I realized I was upset at the fact that I was being put out, that MY schedule was being disrupted, that MY wants and wishes were not being met. After I came to that realization, I worked hard each day to concentrate on the things that I COULD do. I could write more newsletters for ACWW, I could make more phone calls, write more emails, and take the time to make plans and set goals for myself now and when this pandemic is on the way out. I am glad for the time I have had to plan, and for the time

I had to make more contacts with friends within the organization and other friends, and for the opportunity I had to spend more time with my husband and with myself. It seems that selfcare and personal reflection time is sometimes the first to go when we are busy.

I am grateful for those groups that made the effort to participate in the Women Walk the World and send donations to me. The donations are being sent to ACWW this week. I am grateful for those groups that made an effort to collect Pennies for Friendship when they collected the membership forms. Thank you to all that donated. If you have not had the opportunity to donate to Pennies for Friendship and would like to, please know that you can send me your donations at any time during the year, and I will get them to ACWW. Also, if you want, you could go on the ACWW website to donate. ACWW has a very secure portal for donations with the added benefit that the exchange rate is very minimal compared to sending a check to them.

I would like to encourage each of you to join ACWW as an individual member. You will receive the Country Woman magazine, the World Presidents Newsletter, and have the opportunity to attend the Triennial. You can also join on the website. Simply go to [ACWW.org.uk](http://ACWW.org.uk). Please remember that the United Kingdom has an extremely strict privacy and data protection policy. Your credit card and personal info will be very safe!

We all have been spending a lot of time at home and I would like to share some cute quotes by children about home. They come from a book I was given at a conference several years ago, it is called "Where the Heart Is". *Ellie age nine says "Home is where you store your heart...because home is one mind with no frayed ends, a place to be yourself, a place to hide from everything but love..." Tom age twelve says "...Home is a place where you are always wanted. It is a place where you should stay until you think you can face the world by yourself..." Adina age eight says "My home is a rainbow leading to happiness. It is not the furniture, the cozy warm furniture, the rooms so peaceful and quiet, but the people who are in it that cast a shadow of love over me"*. Home is all that and more! I am grateful for the peaceful place my home is, for the sheltering comfort I feel in my home, and the haven of rest that my home can be.

Have the best New Year wherever and whatever your home is and write the best story for 2021 that you can!

Bonnie Teeples-ACWW USA Area President

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## District III Director

How are you? How's your family, friends and community?

How many puzzles have you put together or games you've played. Do you yell at the TV news or shout out answers to Jeopardy questions without ringing in. Does your dog tell you, 'you need to take a walk', or your cat stare at you and shakes its head?

Someday our world will be safer and we'll let out a big sigh of relief.

I called study group presidents to ask if their groups have met and what did they do for the holidays. The **Oak Meadows Study Group** in Salem is sheltering in place, the **Sheridan Study Group** is as well, their long-time member, Ivy Van Epps recently passed away. The **Amity Study Group** created fresh Christmas wreaths to sell. Some of the money was used to give \$100 to the Amity Fire Department to help buy Christmas gifts for needy families, and \$25 dollars was also given in memory of member Phyllis Hoag who passed away earlier in 2020. They also walked for ACWW and sent \$50.00 to ACWW.

The **Lost Creek Study Group** of Dexter are waiting to meet again. They did decide to donate money as they do every year: \$50 each to two local food banks and \$50 to the Dexter fire hall (they meet there).

Each year the **Creative Homemakers** of McMinnville chose a family to bless. Our newest member, Ina suggested by email a lovely young woman with a toddler son. Being a waitress in the time of COVID meant she had been laid off. The mom had not had a Christmas since she was 14, when her family broke apart. Ina drove around the county to pick up our gifts. We gave the little family a Christmas tree, toys, a used sewing machine, gift cards, an unused Instant Pot with our Instant Pot lesson inside, and more.

As Ina and her husband carried in the gifts the toddler was gleeful

and his mom wept. She asked who we were, just FCE Christmas Angels.

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## Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am.

Welcome to a little bit of Ireland. Enjoy some music, the heroic **struggles of these hardy Irish, and photos of this lush island.**

See places to visit, Ireland's famous poets and writers.

Learn what the Irish do to their vegetable soups.

Taught by Cynthia Gibson in Prospect, Oregon and Anne Engen in McMinnville, Oregon on **Zoom**. You'll receive instructions and the password to join the class. **Zoom** is fun! Not able to zoom, ask a friend who can.

**Think of this class as the inexpensive vacation you really deserve.**

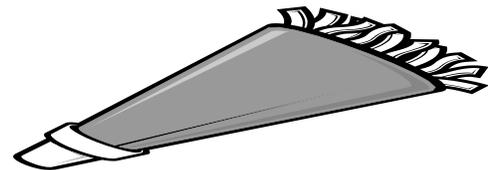
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## Trivia

What FCE couple have a dog who understands the words "Dairy Queen"?

Cause the dog loves his Dairy Queen French fries dipped in ice cream. One at a time.

Answer on next page.



**CHEERS FOR FCE  
2021 State FCE Conference  
Springfield, OR  
October 4,5,6, 2021**

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Answer to Trivia question:  
Ann Conkin, Lost Creek FCE Study Group, Lane  
County

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### Oregon Heart of FCE.

On October 8, 2020 members of the Washington County FCE Advisory Council and of the (former) Leisy-Schefflin Study Group went to surprise **The 2020 Oregon Heart of FCE, Connie Gates**, at her home. Her daughters, Annette and Becky were able to keep the secret we were coming from Connie. It was a lovely day and we met on Connie's covered patio and presented her with the beautiful stained-glass heart, made by Sharyl Michael.

Balloons, posters and cards were brought and given to congratulate Connie. In attendance were: Inez Griffels, Judith Goldmann, Diana Anderson, Dawn Westphal, Myrna Loucks and Karen Walker and Annette and Becky.

Submitted by Karen Walker



### Time for a little humor in these days of Covid non-life

1. My goal for 2020 was to lose 10 pounds. Only have 14 to go.
2. Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons & tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce and cheese. FINE, it was a pizza...OK, I ate a pizza! Are you happy now?
3. How to prepare Tofu: a. Throw it in the trash. b. Grill some meat, chicken or fish.
4. I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
5. I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-day diet food supply in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
6. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.
7. Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.
8. Senility has been a smooth transition for me.
9. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside, they closed school? Yeah, Me neither.
10. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.
11. I love being *almost* 80, I learn something new every day and forget 5 other things.
12. A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money so I woke up and searched with him.
13. I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.
14. November 1, 2020 marked the end of Daylight-Saving Time. Hope you didn't forget to set your bathroom scale back 10 pounds on Saturday night.
15. Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed.

Submitted by Donna Michaelson, Ambitious Annies