

Oregon FCE News

Volume 26 Issue 2

Oregon Association for Family & Community Education

May 2019

President's Comments



Spring has quickly come and the second year of my three-year term as Oregon FCE President is moving right along. I am excited to be, and hope to always be, a major part of making Oregon FCE the best it can be. But I need your help. Like the old saying "It takes a village to raise a child," we need all of the Oregon FCE members to make Oregon FCE the best it can be.

We held the Oregon FCE Board Meeting in March and spent two days working hard on the business that was needed to be done. Complete details can be found in the Minutes of that meeting on the Oregon FCE website www.oregon-fce.org. There were a lot of great reports about a lot of great things that are going on across the state of Oregon. The financial status of Oregon FCE is doing well. Membership totals are down slightly and we are doing all that we can do to improve those numbers but we need your help. Time was spent discussing those lost FCE members, the whys and what we can do to help. A few new Committees were set up and members of those committees and current Committees were approved by the Board.

Bonnie and I, at our own expense and using no Oregon FCE money, had the opportunity to attend the 2019 ACWW Triennial in Melbourne Australia. It was a great conference and I learned a lot. I was there as a voting delegate for Oregon FCE. There were 19 Resolutions that were voted on. I did write a report on the Conference and emailed it out to all Oregon FCE Leadership so you can get the report from one of them or I can email it to you. While there, my wife Bonnie, ran for, and was elected the ACWW – USA Area President. She'll be busy with

this new task but will still have lots of time for her family and Oregon FCE.

Due to the hard Spring weather and time conflicts by all, the 2020 Oregon FCE Conference Selection Committee has had a hard time getting together to work on getting a venue for the 2020 Fall Conference. It is District 3's opportunity to host the Conference and they would like to have it in the Eugene/Springfield area. We will start looking soon. If you know of a great venue for the Conference, please let us know.

District 1 has been working hard planning for the 2019 Fall Conference. I thank all of those that are involved in this task. Please plan on attending the 2019 Oregon FCE Conference which will be held in Clackamas at the Monarch Hotel. Wonderful classes will be offered, and you can get information about those classes in the 2019 Spring Board Minutes. I'm sure that there will be lots of great speakers, activities and things to do. I'm going... how about you? I have some great news also, our National FCE President, Ardyce Snyder, will be attending our 2019 Fall Conference.

A little reminder about the elections that will happen at the 2019 Conference. Officers will be elected to President Elect, Vice President for Program, Secretary, District 2 Director, and District 4 Director. I have had some people let me know they are interested in running for these positions but if you would like to run, or if you know of anyone that should run, or is interested in running, please contact either myself or a member of the Nomination Committee (Sharyl Michael, Patti Malanaphy, or Kerry Mauk)

I would also like to announce that there is almost a sure thing that the 2020 National FCE Conference is going to be held in Oregon. It will be held in Clackamas, Oregon at the Monarch Hotel, which is the same hotel we are using for our 2019 Fall Conference. Be sure to attend. It won't get any closer.

Be sure to get ready for the new Volunteer Hours Award that was started last year.

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Last year we were honored to have 16 Individuals, 8 Study Groups, and 4 Counties earn a Volunteer Hours Award. We want to honor all of those Individuals, Study Groups and Counties that put in lots of volunteer hours. The application form can be found on the Oregon FCE website, www.oregon-fce.org, or from various FCE leaders.

If you haven't heard, we have a new State-Wide Contest that was started this last year. It is the 2nd and 3rd Grade Essay and Artwork Contest. The theme for 2019, and also for 2020, is "What I love most about living in Oregon." This year we had 12 contestants. We hope to have more for next year. Complete rules and applications forms can be found on the Oregon FCE website www.oregon-fce.org.

This has been a great year for me in Oregon FCE. I have been working hard to make Oregon FCE the best it can be. The following are some of the things that I have worked on:

- Strived to bring the "Spirit of FCE" wherever I go.
- Tried to convince all FCE members that we can grow as a membership. We always need to be looking for new members. Invite potential members to your best activities and let them know about FCE. We need to use the term "Bring a Friend" to all of our activities. **When was the last time that you invited a non FCE member to one of your FCE activities?** They won't come and they won't join if you don't invite them. Every current FCE member was invited to become an FCE member by someone.
- Achieved many of the personal and organizational goals for Oregon FCE.
- Prepared the 2019 Oregon FCE Spring Board meeting agenda and set up all arrangements to the motel and meeting place.
- Worked on revising and updating the Oregon FCE Leadership Contact List.
- Worked on revising and updating the Oregon FCE website www.oregon-fce.org.
- Actively been part of the recruitment of 2 new FCE members in Redmond Oregon.
- Appointed, with Executive Committee approval, members of the 2020 Oregon FCE Conference Site Committee.

- Visited and participated in various FCE meeting and FCE activities throughout the state.
- I completed a detailed report for Oregon FCE and, as requested, and submitted it to the National FCE Organization. It included all of the various Oregon FCE activities and volunteer hours. I reported: 350 Lesson Presentations done; 11,338 FCE Volunteer Hours; 14,640 Other Volunteer Hours; 25,978 Total Volunteer Hours; \$60,675.00 in money used to support Oregon FCE projects and activities; and that 13,550 non-FCE people were reached or effected with our various Oregon FCE projects/activities. I will email anyone copies of the complete report if you are interested.
- Worked with local OSU agent and our OSU liaison, Patti Case, and with OSU Extension in reviewing, revising and signing the Oregon FCE/OSU Extension Service MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).

I, as always, 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"**.

Please let me know if there is anything, I can help you with.

Scott Teeples – Oregon FCE President

Oregon FCE News is sent 3 X year to FCE members paying dues for Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2019.

~Next deadline-August 2, 2019~

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Study Group news from around Oregon

Clackamas County FCE Share Fair

On April 22, 2019 our Share Fair celebrated the 49th anniversary of Earth Day. What a great event! We had an excellent speaker, geologist Dr. Scott Burns. He discussed past earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest, what the future may bring, and how to prepare. Our study groups presented informative displays ranging from the 1993 Spring Break Molalla Earthquake to the importance of cooking sustainably and eating family dinners together.

We had a delicious potluck with lots of laughter and sharing among members. The event ended with a very successful basket raffle and silent auction. Special thanks to the hosting study groups: Highland, Rural Dell/Wildcats, and Springwater. Submitted by **Susan Gardelius**

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Jackson County

The National Association for Family and Community Education is proud to announce the Jackson County winner of the 2019 art and essay contest "Character Counts". The 1st place winner is Zirianna Mohar, from Hillside Elementary, in Eagle Point.

This contest is held annually and is open to all 4th graders in states throughout the U.S.. Each participating student writes an essay and draws a picture that reflects their thoughts on the topic each year. The topic this year was "Trustworthiness". Zirianna's essay and artwork was then submitted to the Oregon State contest and she was awarded 2nd place from all the entries submitted.

Congratulations, Zirianna!

Submitted by **Cynthia Gibson**, Jackson Co. FCE Council President



Yamhill/Polk Spring Festival March 20, 2019

All of District III was represented at our Spring Festival hosted by Yamhill and Polk Counties. Jeanne Brandt, Debra Driscoll and Tonya Johnson shared pictures and souvenirs from their recent trip to India. The clothing was of interest to many so Tonya modeled as Jeanne showed how the one piece of material is pleated and tucked to make a complete dress.



Scott Teeples, our Oregon FCE President, also attended and presented Phyllis Hoag, Amity FCE, with a certificate for her 60 years as a member of FCE.



We also welcomed 8 members from District I.

A wonderful day was had by all. The Amity Fire Station has a very nice facility in which to meet. We played some games, had raffle drawings, book sales and of course lunch of salads and desserts. Thank you all for coming and sharing our day.

Submitted by **Lynda Nyseth**, editor

The Treasurers Bottom Line

Your Oregon FCE Board feels it is important that all Oregon FCE members are kept up to date on the finances of the Organization. I'm sure that many of your District Directors have updated you or will update you on the financial state of Oregon FCE. This report will be an overview of the board's discussion at Spring Board meeting.

Membership is down again this year. Each District Director was given a list of people that were members last year but not this year and were asked to contact each person on that list. Each Director brought back some very comprehensive information about our "lost" members. Now it is up to each of us to contact those who are still living and see what we can do to encourage them to re-join.

Membership is down 17 members overall this year, and that is with 13 new members. That means we have lost 30 members from last year. The responsibility for membership growth and stability lies with each one of us. Please think about the reasons you joined the organization and share those reasons with non-member friends and neighbors to encourage new membership.

Due to successful fundraising and the frugality of the board, we have been able to stop the drain on our investments. There are enough in donations to fund two issues of the newsletter from donations instead of taking money out of the CD's. We also are able pay the website hosting and domain fees each year instead of taking from the general fund. The board thanks you so much for your generosity. The longer we can fund these two important items with donations the longer we can keep our investments viable.

Our fundraising booth is paying off also. In the last eight months we have earned over \$1200 from the booth sales. I would ask that each of us keep donating items to the booth. We are doing very well so far, but the donations are dropping off, and that will mean that the sales will drop off also. Please remember that this fundraising booth is for the benefit all of us in the organization.

Ideas for items that sell well in the store are household items such as antique or collectible glassware, Pyrex bowls, wall décor, table top décor, lamps, doily's etc. Other items that sell well are "new" crocheted or knitted dish cloths, decorated hand towels, seasonal decorations and good used books. When determining items to put in the booth

a good rule of thumb is: If it is something you would buy for your own home then it will more than likely sell in the store. If it is chipped, cracked, torn or damaged in any way it will not be anything that will sell.

Over all, the financial health of Oregon FCE is good. We are hoping that we will not have to take money out of our investments for the foreseeable future. The last two CD's that rolled over got a little bit better interest rate than they had prior. It will be good to leave that money in the CD and get those extra few pennies added in!!!

If any of you have any questions about the Oregon FCE financial picture, please contact me and I'll try to answer any questions you may have!

Bonnie Teeples, Oregon FCE Treasurer
bdteeples@charter.net

ACWW USA Area President

"You cannot raise your children as your parents raised you, because your parents raised you for a world that no longer exists". (Quoted by Ruth Shanks, Associated Country Women of the World Immediate Past World President during her 2019 Triennial Report.)

Ruth used this quote to emphasize the importance of responding to the changes occurring in many of our organizations and to remind us that some changes are inevitable for organizational survival. I have been asked how I feel about change. I do not feel that we should make change just for the sake of changing, but as a business woman, I know that certain changes are inevitable. And I certainly know that the ACWW USA Area needs some changes made. I hope that we can all work together as we navigate changes.

I was asked to share my personal vision for my term with the new board during our first board meeting. I would like to share part of that with all of you.

I realize that it is important to educate members about the Associated Country Women of the World in the areas of Funding for ACWW and the projects, and the work resulting from the Resolutions and Recommendations. That education will be one of my top priorities. I want there to be open two-way communication with the members and the Area President. I also feel that we all need to work on increasing Society and Individual memberships. (Continued on page 5)

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I was impressed with the Resolutions that were passed at this Triennial Conference. They were well thought out and well supported. A few that made an impact on me were: The Registration of Old Landfills; Protection of Shared Marine Environment-Sustainable Coral Reefs and Fish Stocks; Domestic Violence; Iron Deficiency and lastly Pollinator Protection. I'm sure there will be a more complete report on the resolutions in the fceTODAY, and I will be putting one on the Oregon FCE website.

As I begin my term as the ACWW USA Area President I want to thank you all for your support and confidence in me. One of the other visions I have for my term is to unify the USA Area. I feel that the vote of confidence I received by the voting shows me that many others share my vision.

“Everything you do matters. Every move you make, every action you take...Matters. Every single thing you do matters. You have been created as one of a kind. You have been created in order to make a difference. You have within you the power to change the world.” (The Butterfly Effect by Andy Andrews)

We all have that power within us to make a difference in the world. Working together will make it happen.

Bonnie Teeples, ACWW USA Area President

**FCE District III's
Spring Fling in Jasper!**

Lane county Lost Creek Study Group, Dexter, Oregon sponsored the District III meeting with 25 members and friends attending.

There were three raffle items with the proceeds going to Greenhill Human Society. Coins were collected for ACWW. They served a delicious lunch of lasagna, bread, salads and dessert. Jill Van Buren a retired Director of Elections for Benton County, who is now an International Elections Observer, shared with us the work that she is doing along with pictures. Anne Engen, District III Director shared information on upcoming classes at our State Conference for this year. She also shared information on the 2020 State Conference that will be hosted by District III. Volunteers are need for many jobs so please volunteer to step up and give a

helping hand. Theme will be “Cheers for FCE” how can we be cheerleaders?

Scott Teeples gave a report on the trip to ACWW in Australia that he and Bonnie just returned from and contest, scholarships and other information on the State Conference to be held in Clackamas at the Monarch Hotel on October 7-9. July 19-22, 2019 is the National FCE Conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri and in 2020 to be held in Clackamas at the Monarch Hotel. Plan on attending in 2020 because the National Conference is here and it is as close as we can get without flying. It is always a great time to meet other FCE members and learn what they do in their state. Life long friendships can be made and it is a great learning experience.

Submitted by **Lynda Nyseth**, editor

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Members lost in 2019

Marion County lost a long-time member, **Alma Wells**. Alma was born March 14, 1919 in Kulm, North Dakota, the youngest of six children. She grew up on the family farm, attended high school and college in Ellendale, ND and graduated from what was then called the State Normal & Industrial College.

Her home economics teaching career included teaching jobs in: Kalispell, Montana; Wrangell, Alaska; Monticello, Minnesota and then to Oregon where she became a Yamhill County Extension Agent in McMinnville.

Alma will be remembered for her optimism, enthusiasm for life, endless energy love of learning, many travelling adventures, great cooking and ability to fix anything around the house. She was an active member of the Chemeketans for many years and enjoyed hiking with friends. She was an active member of Oak Meadows FCE group in Salem and will be missed by many friends.

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Web Site for Oregon FCE
www.Oregon-FCE.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ELLA

Ella turned 102 May 9th. Ella is a long time member of the Lost Creek FCE, she is in good health and still attends as many meetings as she is able. We wish Ella a very Happy Belated Birthday.

Fascinating Speaker

Guess the volunteer job of this woman - you work under the European Union and NATO, your partner is usually a man from another country, it is fall and you're in unheated schools and public buildings and you are in Eastern Europe and there might be land mines so you always walk on the cement. You always wear a marked armband to identify who you are.

Sounds enticing doesn't it!

Jill Van Buren kept us spellbound as she told stories and showed photos at the District III meeting in the Jasper Grange Hall. Jasper is southeast of Springfield, Oregon. District III includes counties from Yamhill down the valley and coast to Lane County. Lost Creek Study Group from Dexter hosted and served us lunch.

Jill is an International Elections Observer. Earlier she was the first certified Election Administrator in the state of Oregon and also spent 12 years as part of a Search and Rescue Unit. These skills are perfect for being an Observer of elections in Bosnia/Herzegovina, Mongolia, Albania, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia. She stressed Elections are not Politics. Observers watch and deal with cheating, problems, or people restricted from voting, even intimidation by mafia thugs.

Both men and women vote, sometimes a family will gather in a voting booth so the children can read the information to their illiterate parents. The votes are hand counted.

Jill Van Buren has been invited to speak at our State Conference in 2020 hosted by District III. We want you to experience Jill's stories and photos of people she has helped.

Anne Engen, District III Director

Scott Teeples – Oregon FCE President 4-3-19

Recently, I came across this this plea from a person that was involved in some type of an organization. Although this person was probably not in FCE, they very well could have in FCE or

one of many other organizations. We need to all take the opportunity to read this person's plea for help and think about what it really says and what it really means. We may find ourselves as the one giving the plea or one of those that need to look a lot closer at our own FCE members. I quote this person's words.

"I'M THE PERSON"

I'm the person who asked to join our organization. I'm the person who paid my dues to join. I'm the person who stood up in front of you and promise to be faithful and loyal. I'm the person who came to your meetings and no one paid any attention to. I tried several times to be friends, but they all had their own friends to talk to and sit next to. I sat down several times, but no one paid any attention to me. I hope very much that someone would have asked me to take part in a fundraising project or something, but no one saw my efforts when I volunteered. I missed a few meetings after joining, because I was sick and couldn't be there. No one asked me at the next meeting where I had been. I guess it didn't matter very much to others whether I was there or not. The next meeting, I decided to stay home and watch TV. The following meeting, I attended, but no one asked me where I was for the last meeting. You may say I'm a good person, a good family person who holds a responsible job, loves my community and my country. You know who else I am? I'M THE PERSON WHO NEVER CAME BACK. It amazes me how the heads of the organization and the members discuss WHY the organization was losing members. It amazes me to think that they spent so much time looking for the NEW members when I was there all the time. All they need to do was to make me feel needed, wanted and WELCOME!

"Unknown Member"

So, what is it that we can do as FCE members to prevent this from happening to any of our members? We need to get know them. We need to love and care for them. We need to make them feel needed and welcome. We need to find out who they are. We need to learn of their strengths, their weaknesses, and their fears. We need to know what we can do to help them become a very important part of FCE.

Every member, without exception, needs three things: (Continued on page 7)

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1. Every member, new or old, needs a friend. They need to feel like they have someone to share the joys and the hardships of their lives both in FCE and in their personal lives.
2. Every member needs a purpose. Every member needs to feel needed. We need to find the things that these members can do and what they love to do. Everyone has that special thing that they are good at. Involve them in doing great things and make them feel that they have “self-worth” to themselves and to the FCE organization.
3. Every FCE member needs the rich nurturing of the FCE organization. They need the love and the support of all the FCE members. They need to feel important and feel like they have something to offer in return. We need to keep them involved but not overwhelmed in their assignments. We need to be there to help them and to teach them how to do the things they have volunteered to do, or the assignments have been given. We need to be their friends and mentors. We need to recognize and reward them for their efforts and success. When they start to become lost and start to fall away, we need to “leave the nine and ninety and go and find the one.” We need to be there and to help them as they start to struggle and fall away.

I would hope that each of us can read and understand the feelings of this person as they talk about being “I am the One.” May we all work at doing our best at making FCE the best it can be for the organization and for each member.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES 15 MAY 2019

A public statement from the Associated Country Women of the World, marking this year’s theme: Families and Climate Action

The Associated Country Women of the World was instrumental in the conception, implementation, and promotion of the International Year of the Family in 1994. Then, we focused on the problem of global warming, and the uneven burden carried by rural women. As we mark the International Day of Families, we highlight the fact that since 1994, this burden has not been lightened or adequately addressed. In fact, rural communities are the most likely to suffer the

consequences of climate change, despite contributing least to global emissions.

Rural areas are home to around 80% of the world’s populations living in poverty. This poverty, and the lack of access that comes with rural living, means that rural populations are more vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change. Whilst living in a non-urban area increases the challenges and susceptibility to climate-related risk, the impacts aren’t limited to developing countries.

Highlighting some examples, the United States Census Bureau shows that 97% of land area is considered rural, and provides a home for 19.3% of the population. These rural communities rely on natural resources and climate patterns, which are inherently more vulnerable to climate change. Not only do rural communities rely on these at-risk resources, but urban and suburban areas rely on the productivity and health of these rural areas for food, energy, and water. This chain limits national resilience and puts all those in poverty at risk for catastrophic life change. To put this in context, a 2017 report from the United States Federal Reserve showed that 44% of adults could not cover an unexpected \$400 emergency expense or would rely on borrowing or selling something to do so. Combined, these precarious conditions illustrate just how global a problem this is.

Whilst initiatives to limit single-use plastic, reduce food waste, limit air travel, and take actions like switching from cars to bikes all help, the responsibility for large-scale, genuine action on climate change rests with national governments and big businesses. Corporate entities, fuel suppliers, and those that sell us food, are responsible for significant amounts of pollution, and are far more likely to take mitigating actions if pressured by their customers. Governments set national policies, and can incentivize corporate action through tax processes and legislation. As citizens, we each have a role in holding our governments to account, and can hold our service and goods providers to a higher standard of environmental responsibility.

Supporting local farmers and small businesses with lower carbon-footprints will do more to increase our resilience to climate change. We welcome the forthcoming Decade of Family Farming, and will be working to support ACWW’s agricultural members with lobbying resources throughout this period. The Paris Agreement on climate change makes clear that vast amounts of mitigation and adaptation by existing communities is necessary, but cannot be the only solution. Whilst we all realize that change is slow, we must also realize that change is critically necessary. We must do all we can and, crucially, force those industries who rely on our custom, to do more, and do it quickly.

Magdie de Kock, ACWW World President