Outgoing President’s Message

By Badiyyah Waajid

It has been a very good year for VAFCS. We continued with the momentum of renewal and change at our affiliate level and were intentional in efforts to connect with FCS professionals in the field while encouraging student participation and networking. The tireless efforts of our dedicated 2013-2014 Board of Directors resulted in the following accomplishments:

- For the first time, professional-looking and high quality newsletters are now being delivered directly to members via e-mail. Simply click and read.
- The Family and Consumer Sciences Legislative Day at the General Assembly was held on February 12, 2014 with representatives from FCS Cooperative Extension, university educators and students, in addition to business and industry professionals.
- “Challenge of Change” was the theme of our March 20-21, 2014 annual conference in Virginia Beach sponsored jointly by VAFCS and the Extension Association (VEAFCS). Awards were presented to the FCS Professional and Students of the Year.
- Collaboration on our affiliate level continues to enhance student involvement.
- More than 50 students were involved in our Taking it to the Streets event at the State Fair of Virginia in October, 2013.
- The Northern Region sponsored student attendance at their fall Professional Development meeting.
- The HUGS program continues to be promoted with individual members sponsoring student membership in AAFCS.
- FCS students from Bridgewater College and Virginia State University presented research posters and roundtable presentations at the Annual Meeting; and implemented a foster care project with the help of FCS professional members by collecting and presenting 990+ items for children in foster care to the Virginia Beach Department of Social Services.
- The student Facebook page improves opportunities for communication and involvement between students and professionals.

To the 2013-2014 Board of Directors, this is a sincere thank you for your devotion and support. Without you, none of this would have been possible. Congratulations to our incoming President, Lauren Giannotti and the 2014-2015 Board of Directors!

New Board of Directors

By Lauren Giannotti

Thanks to all who voted for the 2014-2015 VAFCS Board of Directors. When the ballot was presented to members we were without candidates for President-Elect and Vice President-Elect of Programs. We are pleased to report that two of our dedicated members have accepted appointments to those vacant positions. Pat Schweitzer has accepted appointment to the President-Elect position and Donna Daniels has been appointed Vice President-Elect of Programs for the 2014-2015 year.

Donna is a Family of Consumer Sciences agent and Unit Coordinator with Cooperative Extension in Lunenburg County. Donna will be new to the Board of Directors and we appreciate her willingness to share her leadership talents with us.

Pat Schweitzer, our current Treasurer, is in her second year of her two-year term as Treasurer. Pat has agreed to fill the open President-Elect position. She has shown great leadership in the Treasurer’s position, serving on the committee to reposition our savings and investment accounts, as well as developing an annual budget format that more closely reflects the actual expenditures and income for each fiscal year. Pat has agreed to continue in the Treasurer’s position while serving as President-Elect this coming year.

Congratulations Pat and Donna!
The Virginia Affiliate met in Virginia Beach on March 20 - 21 for the 2014 Annual Meeting, “The Challenge of Change”. FCS professionals from across the Commonwealth converged on the beautiful Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center for two days of professional development and networking.

Incoming AAFCS President, Beverly Card, CFCS, addressed the group on the proposed Academy of Family and Consumer Sciences and the two-tier track.

Dr. Jan Scholl, Virginia Cooperative Extension historian, provided a pictorial history of the Centennial Celebration of Extension.

Keynote speaker, Mr. Jerry Balistreri, M.S., M.Ed., presented, “Reading the Tells”. Jerry is a recognized expert in reading body language with emphasis on detecting lying and deception. He is a trainer, motivational speaker, and author. His banquet presentation “Be a Kami” was an inspirational true story of how one person changed the life of a struggling teen.

FCS students from Bridgewater College and Virginia State University presented research results in a roundtable format.

The college students also planned and implemented a foster care project. With the help of FCS professional members, the students collected 990+ items for children in foster care. Two representatives from the Virginia Beach Department of Social Services were presented the items.

Throughout our meeting, members had an opportunity to go onto the American Egg Board’s website, www.goodeggproject.org and take a pledge to do something good and eat well, every day. In exchange, an egg is given to the hungry through food banks all over the country. A representative from the local food bank spoke of the hungry men, women, and children in Virginia. In the photo, VAFCS members promised to help by taking the pledge and gave the local food bank 120 dozen eggs to seal the promise.

Presentations of scholarships and awards concluded the meeting.

Several outstanding members of VAFCS were recognized at the Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach on March 21, 2014. Jacqueline Snee was presented the Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences Professional Award in the Business, Government and Human Services category.

Allysha Lockner from Bridgewater College was presented the Outstanding Graduating College Senior Award.

Brian Will was presented the Outstanding Graduating High School Senior Award in the Comprehensive category and Tabitha Tutwiler was awarded the Outstanding Graduating High School Senior Award in the Occupational category. Brian’s certificate was presented at the VAFCS meeting and then again at Deep Run High School in Glen Allen, Virginia. Tabitha’s certificate was presented at Sherando High School, in Stephens City, Virginia.

At the national meeting of AAFCS in St. Louis this month, one of our very own members will be sworn in as President. We are fortunate to have the leadership of Beverly Card and to be represented so well at a national level.

Beverly Card CFCS, NBCT has over 44 years experience in the field of family and consumer sciences (FCS). She retired in June after teaching for 44 years at Oxon Hill High School in Prince George’s County, MD and most recently at Mount Vernon High School in Fairfax County, VA. Bev is the president-elect of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS).

She taught all areas of FCS, but specialized in child development and training future teachers. She was a school and county team leader; sponsored students in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America and Future Educators Association to win national competitions; and continually led others with the latest technology.

Her recent honors include 2001 Maryland FCS Teacher of the Year, 2002 AAFCS Top Ten Teacher of the Year, 2006 Maryland Alpha Delta Kappa (AΔK) Excellence in Education Award, 2006 AΔK Southeast Region Excellence in Education Award, 2009 Fairfax County FCS Teacher of the Year, and 2012 Virginia Governors CTE Exemplary Standards Award. She has published several articles, received numerous grants and presented at national conferences.

Beverly has a B.S in Home Economics Education from Michigan State University, is certified in Family and Consumer Sciences and is a National Board Certified Teacher.
Save the Date
Virginia Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Annual Meeting
March 26-27, 2015

Mark your calendars NOW for our 2015 state conference in Staunton, Virginia at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center March 26 – 27, 2015

The theme of this year’s conference is: Well-being of Families: Bridging Research and Practice

Pre-conference on Wednesday March 25, 2015 will include a tour and reception with the administration and FCS students at Bridgewater College. In addition, other activities in Staunton will be held on Wednesday.

Spotlight on the KEYNOTE Speaker for the 2015 Conference

We are excited to announce the keynote presentation for our 2015 conference, The Scientific Secrets for Raising Kids Who Thrive by Dr. Peter M. Vishton from William & Mary.

Dr. Peter M. Vishton is an Associate Professor of Psychology at The College of William & Mary. He earned his Ph.D. in Psychology and Cognitive Science from Cornell University. Before joining the faculty of William & Mary, he taught at Amherst College and Northwestern University and has served as the Program Director for Developmental and Learning Sciences at the National Science Foundation.

A consulting editor for the journal Child Development, Professor Vishton has published articles in many of the top journals in the field of psychology. Among these are Psychological Science, Science, and the Journal of Experimental Psychology. He is also the creator of the DVD What Babies Can Do: An Activity-Based Guide to Infant Development.

In addition to teaching, Professor Vishton devotes much of his career to researching perception and action control of both infants and adults. His studies—funded by prestigious institutions, including the National Institute of Child Health and Development and the National Science Foundation—focus on cognitive, perceptual, and motor development; visually guided action; visual perception; computational vision and motor control; and human-computer interface. Professor Vishton has presented his findings at numerous conferences and invited talks throughout the United States and Europe.

AAFCS HUGS Program
By Charlene Deasy

The HUGS program is an excellent way to encourage and support association membership for our college and university students. There is either a shared-cost option for a student membership or a fully-funded student membership option. Several VAFCS members have sponsored students with the shared-cost option, as then the student has an invested interest in the membership.

Take a moment and think back to your own college days of limited funds but high interest in our FCS field. Association membership may not have been possible for you as a student. The HUGS program makes all the difference and gets our students involved at an early stage in their careers. Students are eligible for the HUGS program but graduates are not. Consider starting a membership when a student is a senior that will carry over into the beginning of their first year as a professional.

Work directly with a student and the AAFCS website or contact me charleen.deasy@verizon.net or 703-620-3593. The HUGS student membership form can be found at: http://www.aafcs.org/Membership

VAFCS on Facebook
By Jacqueline Snee

Wonder how you are going to keep up this summer with everything that is happening in VAFCS? Look no further! Go to: https://www.facebook.com/VAFCS and "like" our page! Catch up on happenings from the VAFCS/VEAFCS Annual Meeting as well as receive our weekly updates on articles, pictures, member spotlights and more! Please contact Jacqueline Snee at jsnee76@gmail.com if you have an event or something related to FCS you would like shared! Pictures from meetings, events and service projects welcome!
AAFCS Lifetime Member Ann Hertzler passed away on February 6 at the age of 78. Ann was living near Wilmington, NC where she moved after retiring from Virginia Tech in 2001. Ann joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1980 as an Extension nutrition specialist, but she also taught classes and conducted research, mainly in the area of nutrition issues facing families and children. She was awarded the title of Professor Emerita in the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise at Virginia Tech, and continued to be an active professional, conducting and publishing research in retirement.

In addition to being a Fulbright Scholar, Ann’s distinguished career included numerous awards. Among them were the Mary Abbott Hess Award for Recognition of an Innovative Food/Culinary Effort and the Award for Excellence in Dietetics Education, both presented by the American Dietetic Association. Ann was an active member of the Virginia Dietetics Association and served as its president. She edited the association’s cookbook titled, “Vintage Virginia”. She was also editor of “Modern Recipes from Historic Wilmington”, published by the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, Wilmington, N. C.

Anyone who knew Ann would agree that she was bursting with enthusiasm and ideas. Although I had met Ann after I arrived at Virginia Tech, my first real interaction with her was at a board meeting we both attended. During the meeting’s discussion of a specific topic, I remembered her enthusiasm for the topic and I couldn’t write fast enough to capture all of the ideas she presented. That is how she seemed to approach everything with which she was involved.

Ann’s passion for knowledge and her ability to recognize an opportunity were instrumental in establishing the Peacock/Harper Culinary Collection in 1999 (now the History of Food and Drink Collection) at the Virginia Tech library. After a renovation of Wallace Hall, the Human Nutrition and Foods Department no longer had room for many of their teaching reference materials, including research publications and 600 cookbooks. Ann and others worked with Gail McMillan at the VT Library to explore establishing this collection and make it happen. Soon after being established, the cookbook collections of Dora Greenlaw Peacock and Dr. Laura Jane Harper were added, and the collection took on their names. The collection has grown significantly over the years, and the Peacock/Harper Culinary Friends and the library continue to be interested in acquiring contributions to our culinary history.

More recently, Ann’s contributions have led to creating the Ann Hertzler Children’s Cookbook and Nutrition Literature Collection. This collection of about 430 items includes Ann’s personal collection of children’s cookbooks, as well as pamphlets and personal papers. In 2005, Ann established a generous endowment to support her collection. Many of these materials, as well as the cookbooks in the initial cookbook collection, are digitized and available on the Virginia Tech Library’s website. Stop by the library to view both of these collections or view them online. That would have been Ann’s wish.

Professional Development Day: new location, same format, and no increase in registration costs. Plan to attend, earn PDU credits, and network with local FCS professionals.

Thursday October 16, 2014
Dulles Hilton, Herndon, VA 20170

Speakers will be listed on the registration brochure which will be available mid-July. Snail mail and e-mail both will be used to get the registration out to everyone. For further information contact Charleen Deasy at charleen.deasy@verizon.net or Mildred Arnold at 703-385-8958.

Potomac Home Economists

This organization was founded in 1952 as a Home & Community group of AHEA; of course, that is now AAFCS and the organization is now part of the Partners in Home and Community. Membership today is varied across all career fields. Meetings are monthly with speakers who share timely FCS information.

Objectives of the group include the following:

- Support the AAFCS and the VAFCFS programs of work
- Promote and foster contact with other FCS professionals including students in the field
- Promote professionalism in Family & Consumer Sciences career fields
- Encourage the study of developments and trends in the field as well as related fields
- Work for and assist in the promotion of community, state, and national programs which are designed for the improvement of home and family life

The 2014-15 year will start with the annual combined luncheon on September 3 at 11:00 am. of the Fairfax Home Economists in Home and Community and the Potomac Home Economists at the First Christian Church on Leesburg Pike in Falls Church, Virginia. The program will be: “Creating a Small Space” by the owner of Creative Classics in Alexandria. The October meeting will be at Hillwood Museum and Gardens, 4155 Linnean Avenue, Washington, DC. Reduced admission, time to enjoy the gardens, and a Dutch-treat lunch in the café on the grounds are part of the October meeting.

For further information regarding this organization please contact 2014-2015 Chairperson, Sandy Jones, at sandy.jones20@cox.net.

Incoming, Outgoing and Past President of VAFCFS share a moment at the 2014 Annual Meeting. We thank them for their leadership: Lauren Giannotti, Badiyyah Waqid and Debbie Will
New Member Spotlight
By Jessie Chen-Yu, VP, Member Services

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed seven new members: Dana Legget-Traylor, April Payne, Donna Daniels, Anna Haarer, Meghan Wright, Rebecca Wix, and George Batton.

Meet April Payne, Extension Agent, Spotsylvania/Stafford County

April holds her BS in Nutrition and MSEd in Health Promotion from Virginia Tech. Her current focus is nutrition, local food access, and food safety. She enjoys getting out into the community and meeting all the wonderful people in the area. She hears most often that Cooperative Extension is a “hidden treasure,” but is working to make it a well-known treasure in the communities.

Congratulations to our graduating student members! We wish you much success and fulfillment as you begin your career in the field of Family & Consumer Sciences.