

May 9, 2024

TO: State Presidents State Presidents Elect National FCE Board Members

FROM: Bonnie Teeples, 2024 Annual Conference Chair

## Come to National FCE Conference- "Empowering Volunteers...Treasure the Present!"

Join the celebration at the National FCE Conference in Erlanger, KY!!! There will be great general sessions with dynamic speakers, three new Hearth Fire lessons/workshops, two new FCL Training workshops, new ideas from other attendees, some fun entertainment and of course, time to renew old acquaintances and make new friends as you attend!

The National FCE Board has approved a LOWER conference of \$300 again this year! The FCL Benefit night has been changed and is now included in your conference rate. These are very positive moves by the National Board, and it is hoped the changes will encourage more members to attend. The sleeping room rate is very low, \$119 per night for 1-4 people. There is a rebate being given to the organization of \$5.00 per room night to offset the costs of the conference. Please get your room reservations made as soon as possible because the cutoff date for you to get the very good rate of \$119 for 1-4 people is on July 8, 2024. Just ask for the **National FCE** rate! We are in their system, and they SHOULD be ready for us to reserve rooms. You will also receive 10% off on meals at the restaurant with your conference badge. Remember that when a contract is signed for a conference venue, that contract is not just for the food and beverage budget, but also for a certain number of sleeping rooms. It is hoped and encouraged that you will stay at the Holiday Inn where we are having the conference to help us meet our obligations to the hotel. Your room rate is good for 3 days prior to and three days after the conference. It is a great place to stay if you want to see some of the sights in the area before or after the conference.

I encourage each of you to register for the 2024 conference and then to become an active supporter of some of the conference activities by serving as a Hostess, donating to the Coupon Auction, participating in the Alumni Fundraiser by donating a small quilted item to be auctioned, and/or by placing an ad in the Conference Program Book. I especially encourage you to complete and return the enclosed forms by the July 8th deadline. Early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please make copies of this letter (or send an electronic copy) and disseminate the information to your members.

**HOSTESSES**: One hostess is needed to welcome attendees to each workshop. Each meal function and general session will have 2-4 hostesses. Showing up on time, smiling, greeting everyone, and checking for tickets or nametags is all the talent that is required. If you have these qualifications, or know of someone who does, please ask them to become a hostess, or why not just volunteer? Please let your members know about becoming a Hostess. Duplicate the enclosed form as often as needed, fill it out and return it to the person or persons listed on the form. Emailing your filled in forms is encouraged.

ADS FOR CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOOK: National FCE is encouraging individuals, states, counties, clubs, and businesses to place an ad in the 2024 Conference Program Book. A form is enclosed with the necessary information for you to complete and return. This is your opportunity to promote your state organization or business on a national level. Please also ask your local businesses and encourage them to advertise in our National Program book.

<u>COUPON AUCTION</u>: Every state is encouraged to contribute 2 items worth at least \$20 (or more) each for the FCE Coupon Auction. Send your auction forms to Martha Crawford, National FCE Treasurer. This auction will be conducted in the same manner as past year's, by purchasing tickets to place in jars. Let Martha and I know how many items you will be bringing and the approximate size of each item so there will be adequate table space. Martha's contact information is on the Coupon Auction form.

**SERVICE PROJECT:** The 2024 service project is to bring a selection of Feminine Hygiene products such as small packages of sanitary products, feminine wipes, general toiletries like hand sanitizer, small hand cream tubes. New socks are always a welcome addition! Gift cards like VISA and Master Charge are great also.

<u>SALES TABLES</u>: Many states have fundraisers, such as a cookbook, quilt, or other items they sell to raise money for their community projects. We are offering table space for the sale of your fundraiser items. <u>The state purchasing a table is responsible for collecting money from sales and manning the table</u>. Categories include State, County, Club, Individual FCE Member or Corporate business. Prices are listed on the enclosed form. All money and the original form go to the National FCE Treasurer, with a copy of the form to Bonnie Teeples, the On-Site Committee Chair. (Email the form to personnel listed on the forms)

<u>ALUMNI FUNDRAISER</u>: Small Quilted Items - such aprons, table runners, potholders, wallets, purses, tote bags, and mini quilts - will be displayed for a Silent Auction during the conference in Erlanger – money collected will go towards the National FCE Board Alumni Scholarship Fund for First Timers to conference.

If you want to contribute one or more quilted items for the auction, they can be brought to the conference with you or mailed to Headquarters. For more information contact Alumni Officer Denise Smith. Please find her contact information on nafce.org

**PRESIDENT'S DAY: All conference attendees** will have the opportunity to go on the tour on Thursday. We will return around 2:30 pm. There will be an open meeting at 3:00 pm for all members, but State Presidents, Presidents Elect, and appointed delegates should plan to attend to receive the latest information. There will be a short practice for the Presentation of the Presidents and National FCE Board following the meeting.

**TOUR:** A tour is being offered by the National Board again this year. It will be Thursday July 25. We will be touring several sites related to FCE History. The cost of the tour is \$30 and includes a box lunch. Transportation will be provided by FCE members attending the conference. If you would like to provide your vehicle for the tour sign up below. Volunteer drivers will be compensated by tour registration funds. Tour information is included in this mailing.

We look forward to hearing from you and, especially, to seeing you at the National FCE Conference as **we "Empower Volunteers...Treasure the Present"** in Erlanger KY!! Thank you in advance for all your help and participation at this great National FCE Conference! **Please share this information with your state members**.



## 2024 NATIONAL FCE CONFERENCE ON-SITE COMMITTEE

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