

Oregon FCE News

Volume 32 Issue 1

Oregon Association for Family & Community Education

February 2025

President's Comments



President's Newsletter Article February 2025

Greetings from your President. I hope this newsletter article finds that all is well with each one of you. Today, February 3 was a tough day for the Teeple family. It had rained pretty hard for a few days and then yesterday it began to snow. We got about 10 inches of snow yesterday and at least 8 more inches during the night. It was the heaviest, and wettest snow I've ever seen. I was in my driveway running the snowblower cleaning my driveways, when at about 10:00 am there was a terrible crashing sound, and a huge branch had broken off our big tree and landed on the roof of our house. There were tree branches going down everywhere in town and one of them was mine. It punched several holes in our roof, including one branch going through our ceiling. I spent the whole day making calls to my insurance company, a tree service, and a roofing company. We were just thankful that it wasn't worse than it was.

Bonnie and I are busy doing lots of things in our lives including FCE, ACWW, and of course, Keeper's Corner. I am substituting teaching almost every day and still enjoying it. This is my 51st year of teaching. I have also received a new Calling in my Church as the Branch President of the Yonna Valley Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. We are now driving 25 miles to the church building.

If you haven't been on the Oregon FCE website, or the National FCE websites lately, now's the time to do so. I have spent hours scanning and posting "Lessons from the Past" on the Oregon FCE

website. There are a total of 163 lessons available for you to view, print, or download. The National FCE website "Members Page" has hundreds of lessons available. You will need a password to get on the page and I can give it to you.

We are again doing the Oregon FCE High School Age CHARTACTERCOUNTS!© Essay Contest. Starting this year, it is a State and National contest. Lots of work has been done about getting the information out to high school age students. We don't have a count of how many are participating because the deadline is March 1, 2025, for the contest entries. I am sure we are going to have a lot of entries this year. Complete forms, brochures, Pillar Books, and information can be found on the Oregon FCE website www.oregon-fce.org.

FCE is well and alive. I'm hearing of various FCE and volunteer activities from across the state of Oregon and across the nation. Lots of lessons are being given and lots of learning is going on. We may be few in numbers, but we are all strong in spirit and dedication to FCE. Keep up the great work.

We were again able to hold an "in person" 2024 Oregon FCE State Conference this past year and all those attending had a great time visiting, socializing, and getting to see everyone. The Conference was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Springfield.

The State Board, the Conference Committee, and lots of volunteers took on assignments and did a wonderful job planning and hosting the Conference. It took a "Village" to put it on, but everything went well. A big thank you to all those that helped. The number of attendees was 28 full-time attendees. The excitement was up, and all the Conference evaluations rated it number ONE. Everyone loved the hotel, the hotel workers, the hotel location, and the wonderful food they served. We had great speakers, great classes, wonderful tours of the area, great activities, and games, but most of all we had great friends. We had a great "Country Store" and sold raffle tickets for all the items. The "Country Store" was a big hit and we're doing it again this year.

Everyone met at least one new friend. Some non-FCE friends were invited to attend. At least 2 new members joined FCE because of that loving, sharing, and inviting. If you weren't there, we missed you, and hopefully we'll see you at the Conference this year.

The 2025 Conference is going to be held again at the same location. The contract with the hotel has been signed and we are ready to go. The dates of the 2025 Conference are October 6-8, 2025. The theme of the Conference is "Power of the Past... Beacon to the Future." Your FCE State Board will again do the task of hosting the Conference. They, along with FCE members, Study Groups, Counties, and Districts will take over that task. It worked very well in 2024. They will use help from all around the state of Oregon. There are lots of assignments and tasks that need to be done and most of them have had volunteers step up for them.

We have selected 5 lessons for the Conference including: Great American Women part 3 by Kerry Mauk; Forgotten Towns in Oregon by Sally Wyffels & Lynda Nyseth; Spilling the Beans by Bonnie Teeple & Marian Baner; The Red Cross by Karen Walker; and Prostate Cancer by Scott Teeple. This year all the lessons will be taught in the same room so you can attend all 5 of them.

We are also doing a couple of new things in the schedule. The Board meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon so the Board members can attend the activities on Monday morning. We are also doing something new in doing two service projects on Monday morning including making "Comfort Bears" and "Lap Blankets."

To help with the cost of the State Conference, we are looking for Conference Sponsors including individuals, Study Groups, Counties, and businesses. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for sponsors. I will take care of you by writing them a letter asking for their support.

Let's make sure that we are doing all our normal activities including volunteering, meeting in our Study Groups, County Council meetings, District meetings, and our State Conference. Be sure to schedule and hold those special events that we have had in the past. Please Invite me to your various activities and I'll do all I can to be there.

The Oregon FCE Zoom lessons will continue onward this year. Wednesday February 5, 2025, will be our 50th monthly lesson. They are usually held

on the first Wednesday of the month. FCE members and friends of FCE have participated from across the USA. There have been "Guest Presenters" from Oregon, Virginia, West Virginia, Hawaii, Kansas, Florida, Maryland, Tennessee, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Mississippi. All the Zoom Lessons have been recorded and are available on the Oregon website www.oregon-fce.org. Please let me know if you'd be interested in being a presenter.

The 2025 ACWW-USA/National FCE Conference is going to be held in Erlanger, Kentucky on July 21-24, 2025. It will be different than past national conferences because it will be combined with the Associated Country Women of the World. This year, the National FCE Alumni Association is sponsoring 10 National Conference Scholarships (which pay full registration cost). Oregon FCE also has some National FCE Conference Scholarships available. Contact me for information about those scholarships. Additional information about the National Conference can be found on the National FCE website www.nafce.org.

Before I close this President's report, I want to, as I always do, 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 by 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 the FCE organization die. You, each of you, can be the salvation of Oregon FCE. One last reminder, if we don't do something to help this organization grow, the challenges of "Aging Out," "Burn Out," and an "I don't care attitude" will destroy this organization. Become part of the solution. Don't be a "Nay-Sayer," become a "Yay-Sayer."

If all of us, don't start doing these things, we will continue to see the slow, if not quick, decline in FCE membership. If you don't care, do nothing and nothing will happen. Do your part and we can stop the decline of members and even increase the FCE membership. It all starts with you and me. Let's all make FCE all that it can be. We need to start today! How many of you are willing to accept the challenge I give you today and always?

Our local Contemporaries Study here in Klamath Falls is growing. We now have 17 members in our group with several new members. If we can do it, so can you.

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 to the many FCE officers. Working together, we can accomplish many great things at all levels of FCE.

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

First timers report on 2024 State Conference

Hi, My name is Marian Banes. I live in Klamath Falls ,OR. I was asked to join the Conference last October. 1st Timer!

I was welcomed by some lovely ladies. The food at the conference was very good. I enjoyed the classes that were presented, and learned a lot. Loved the Country Store.

Participated in the " Great American Women you have never heard of...part 2. That was so fun!

Plus, there was a Memorial Session from those who have passed. Very honorable.

There were games almost every night and door prizes. Make sure to bring some cash for the auction Fundraiser! I appreciate all the hard work to run the conference. One more thing, the table centerpieces , were amazing.. I plan on attending in October and hope to see everyone!

Anne Diabla, also attended as a first timer. Anne is from Amity, OR and has been a member for three years. The tour to the pumpkin patch was a hit, especially the sling shots at the scarecrows.

Meeting new friends, learning from the lessons, crafts and game playing also enjoyed. Learning to play “hand and foot” in our room also a big hit.

Thank you, ladies, for your reports on the conference and we look forward to seeing you again in 2025.

Web Site for Oregon FCE

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. Please contact Scott Teeples at 541-891-6456, or email sfteeples@outlook.com if you have any comments or questions.

Remembering FCE Members

Myrtle (Donna) Barber was a member of the Grande Rhonde/Willamina Study Group before it disbanded many years ago. She was born August 31, 1926 in Ballston, OR, to Viola and Frank Smart. Myrtle and her husband Ray lived in Carlton and then in Willamina, Myrtle was living in McMinnville at the time of her death December 29, 2024.

From age 19 until she was 90 she was caretaker of the Willamina Cemetery Records. She and Ray took care of the cemetery grounds, mowing and caring for it. As a family they put the Veterans’ flags on their graves for many years.

She was active at school during her children’s schooling. She wrote for four newspapers (Willamina times, Sheridan Sun, News Register and Salem Capital Journal).



Oregon FCE News is sent 3 X year to FCE members paying dues for Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025.

~Next deadline-April 4, 2025~

Send articles and/or change of address to:

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January 2025
Sandie Bolyard
V.P. for Public Policy
Youth Education Representative
Character Counts Chair

Character Counts, 2025 Trustworthiness

As the Chair of the State Character Counts Essay and Artwork Contest for fourth grade students. I want to remind everyone to get their first-place winners' entries to me by March 15th so we can pick the State winner at the Spring Board. The Pillar of Character this year is Trustworthiness.

Make sure you include the State and National permission slips and a photo of your 1st place winners by March 15th. Since I won't have time after the Spring board to get them before sending the winner's entry to National, any entries submitted to me without the photo and permission slips cannot be put in for consideration.

What I Love about living in Oregon contest:

I am hoping that you are all active in bringing this contest for 2nd & 3rd. graders to your local schools and home-schooled children. The rules are the same as the Character Counts contest so send me your 2nd & 3rd grade first place winners along with the signed National & State permission and photo to me by March 15th. any entries submitted to me without the photo and permission slips cannot be put in for consideration

Heart of FCE

I want to remind everyone that I will need 1 nominee from each County for Heart of FCE to reach me by March 15th so we can pick a winner at the Spring Board meeting.

Please include the Heart of FCE form, essay and two 2x2 photos.

On a personal note; Thank you all for the "Missing You Cards" it means a lot to me and I also miss seeing everyone we always have so much fun.

Sandie Bolyard

Sally Wyffels
V.P. for Programs

Happy 2025, another year of changes, additions and discoveries. I am very pleased to report that I have received information from many of Oregon's FCE study groups that have sent me reports of "what is happening in their units. The reports are from October, November, December and January.

They have provided information concerning the lessons given, members attending, volunteer hours, and the various activities they are involved. Now I would appreciate ideas for new lessons to be written for next year, 2026.

Sally Wyffels

Vice President of Programs

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District III Directors Report

Lynda Nyseth Director

Yamhill County has 22 FCE members: Amity 10, Creative Homemakers 11 and 1 member-at-large.

Marion County has 2 members-at-large.

Amity FCE has 10 members. We have a new member this year, Jean Leppin returning after several years.

We had lessons presented by members and Lynda's daughter presenting a lesson giving helpful tips to help us with daily activities as we age. Jeannie is an OT, she likes to problem solve so she asked us "What is hard for you to do in your day? What are you not doing that you want to be able to do?" Many ideas were shared on how to make holding silverware, brushes and other objects easier for us to handle. Exercise ideas were also shared, it was a day full of helpful information.

Late November several of us got together to make our Christmas wreaths to sell to the public and our members. We made 20 plus wreaths. Money raised goes toward buying gifts for the tree of giving that the Amity Fire Department sponsors.

December, we enjoyed our Christmas luncheon at the Black Bear in Newberg. Great way to end 2024.

We started 2025 with a game day. Lots of games, laughter and soups and desserts for lunch and more games.

Volunteer hours October 2024-January 2025: FCE 132 1/2 and Others 228 1/2. These include FCE activities (lesson teaching, hosting meetings, mailing newsletters, Christmas wreath making, County Council, officer duties), Gideons, church, museum, hospital sales room, helping neighbors, knitting and crocheting for museum.

Creative Homemakers has 11 members. Both November and December were active within the study group. In November ten members traveled to the Sherwood area to visit “Al’s Garden Center”. Each year Al’s has several acres decorated for the Holidays...Christmas decorations, greenery, trees, flowers in all different colors, plus many other ideas for the season. Following the tour of the center the members had lunch in a Red Robin restaurant. In December the members met at a member’s home. They had a gift exchange, potluck luncheon and raised money to be donated to an organization that is helping the people in North Carolina dealing with the areas destructed by the hurricane this past year. In January the group met at another member’s home. The study group appointed their new officers for 2025.

Lane County, Lost Creek FCE has 9 study group members. They have a new member this year, Donna Ellickson.

Volunteer hours from October thru January are 297 for other hours and 88 ½ for FCE hours. These include making bags of love for Lane County, community gardens, Oakridge Museum (teaching young people how to knit and other museum duties) helping family members, preparing and giving FCE lessons, secretarial work for FCE, making items and baking for their Christmas auction.

One lesson that Ann gave was on how to use egg substitutes since the price of eggs has sky rocketed.

During Christmas time they had three members injured and could not attend the Christmas gathering and auction. Pat Putnam broke her lower leg just before the state conference and is recovering in Alaska at her daughters. Nadine Reed fell and broke her nose and hurt her leg, spent time in the hospital and rehab before returning home and Deanna Hadley tripped and caught herself on her wood stove and received bad burns on the palm of her left hand. She is all healed up now.

Even with members missing we made \$135 at our auction, we donated \$50 to the Dexter Fire Department and \$50 to the Dexter Food Pantry. We brought mostly handmade or baked items to sell to one another.

I presented a hearth fire lesson called “Developing an immune system for the soul” in October, Elsie

and Frank gave a lesson called “Your Marvelous Liver” in November.

Here is a good salad recipe that Nadine Reed shared with me. It is called **FuFu Salad**. You mix up 1 small box of pistachio pudding, 1 large can of crushed pineapple with the juice, 1 8 ounce tub of cool whip, and a handful of miniature marshmallows. Enjoy.

FCE Washington County Advisory Board Submitted by Karen Walker, President

Washington County

Groner Study Group has 7 members. They are always busy with the walnuts they purchase from a local grove that they crack, shell and sell. The money they raise goes to the Washington County Domestic Violence Center and at Christmas to the Groner School. They finished off 2024 with a luncheon at a members home.

Tualatin Study Group has 10 members. They took collections from their members to support the Community Transition School (for homeless kids) and The Good Neighbor House (for homeless people). They ended the year with a luncheon at the Tualatin Country Club.

We have 3 members-at-large. Making a total of 20 members in Washington County.

Both of our Study Groups are looking forward to continuing our work with FCE this year. We are so grateful to the OSU Extension Staff for all they do for us on a regular basis.



Treasurers report

Happy New Year and Happy Valentines Day!!! With the New Year and all it brings I’ve been thinking a lot about change and all the changes we are going through as organizations. I’m amazed at the willingness of the members to adapt and make change work! It reminds me of a quote by Gail Sheehy. She has said that **‘If we don’t change, we**

don't grow. If we don't grow, we aren't really living. I liken that to the changes our organizations are going through. If we want our organization to live and thrive, we must be willing to accept change. Stephen Hawking said, 'Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.' And I know we are all intelligent people!

As an ACWW USA Area there has not been a separate Area Conference. We have had an Area Summit and Area Meetings, but not a full Area Conference. I am excited about the move to have a true ACWW USA Area Conference this year! It is going to be so fun and beneficial to see the Area Societies all together!

As the Area President I want this conference to be a conference that would put the limelight on our national member organizations and the work they do as ACWW Societies. I have been meeting with the National Society Presidents to plan the conference. We will be having learning sessions written and presented by members of the National Societies, as well as a few outside speakers. I cannot give you titles of sessions yet, but most sessions will be dealing with ACWW resolutions. I am excited to let you know that ACWW World President Magdie de Kock will be attending the conference and will speak to us. ACWW Executive Director may also be in attendance and will give us some ACWW updates and hold a Q and A session.

Now, I'm speaking as an Oregon FCE board member, I hope you will plan to attend the conference! The dates are **July 21-24, 2025** in Erlanger KY. We will be holding the conference at the Airport Holiday Inn in Erlanger. The National FCE Alumni Association is offering ten, **yes ten!** scholarships to attend the conference! It pays the full registration fee, which is going to be \$300. The National FCE Conference will be on July 21, 2025, with the ACWW Area Conference will be July 22-24, 2025.

Remember... 'You must be the change you wish to see in the World,' Mahatma Gandhi.

Come to conference and help us be the change!
Bonnie Teeples
Oregon FCE Treasurer
ACWW USA Area President

SPRING FESTIVAL DISTRICT III MARCH 19, 2025 Amity Fire Station

"HELPING OTHERS", is the theme of this year's festival. We will have a speaker from Safe Families and monetary donation for them.

We will have a catered lunch, soup and sandwich, fruit and desserts will be included.

Registration fee is \$15.00. Doors open at 8:30, registration at 9 and we will be done by 2:00. Used book sale, raffle baskets, speakers and games will be included.

Registration form is on the Oregon FCE web site. www.oregon-fce.org

ACWW Women Walk the World April 30th

To encourage more people to join us this year we will do things a little different. We will meet at Discovery Park, on Cyprus Street, in McMinnville at 10am. Games will be scheduled, our walk around the park (nice paved walk area no hills so good for walkers, canes and wheel chairs) and bring your sack lunch. We will also talk about some of the projects that ACWW is working on this year.

Come and join in the fun and support ACWW Women Walk the World. Bring a donation for ACWW.

Lynda Nyseth ACWW Coordinator



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Sponsors for the 2025 Oregon FCE State Conference By Scott Teeples

To help with the cost of the 2025 Oregon FCE State Conference, we are looking for Conference Sponsors including individuals, Study Groups, Counties, and businesses. Regardless of whether

you are attending the Conference or not, please help us with the task of finding Conference Sponsors.

Conference Sponsors will be able to place a Sponsorship Advertisement in our Conference Program. The following are the costs of placing advertisements:

Individuals, Study Groups, and Counties (Standard Sponsorship) \$25.00 for an advertisement 5" x 4".

Individuals, Study Groups, and Counties (Standard Sponsorship) \$50.00 for an advertisement approximately 5" x 8".

Individuals, Study Groups, and Counties (Super Sponsorship) \$50.00 for an advertisement approximately 5" x 4".

Individuals, Study Groups, and Counties (Super Sponsorship) \$100.00 for an advertisement approximately 5" x 8".

Businesses (Standard Sponsorship) \$100.00 for an advertisement approximately 5" x 8".

Businesses (Super Sponsorship) \$200.00 or more, for an advertisement approximately 5" x 8".

Please contact tentative sponsors and give them this information. Let me, Scott Teeples, know if you need me to write a letter asking for their support. I will also help in obtaining the advertisement and placing it into the Conference Program.

Job well Done!!!

How many times have you heard those words? How many times have you said those same words to others? How many times do we tell a child "Good job" when they do a small task well? Genuine praise and appreciation expressed to others is simply a part of being a human being and expressing gratitude for the person and the action. One of the first things we teach a child is to say "Please" and "Thank you".

One reason for reporting on your volunteer hours; each year as your treasurer, I am required to file our organization taxes and two other reports. One of those reports is for charitable organizations. For the taxes and charitable organization report, I need to prove that as a 501(c) 3 organization we are fulfilling our tax-exempt status requirements. We are listed as an education and service organization. I state under penalty of law that we are fulfilling those two requirements. If we ever have a government audit there should be documentation.

There are report and evaluation forms for the clubs, study groups and counties to use. The forms are on pages 82- 83 of the handbook and found on the Oregon FCE web site. Please fill in the report form for the lessons and activities you do and send them to the Oregon FCE Vice President for Program and the Oregon FCE President. They will then use your information to make their own reports to National FCE and ACWW. Thank you and please, report those hours!!

Bonnie Teeples- Oregon FCE State Treasurer

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.

Membership is down again this 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. Oregon has not had a significant gain in membership since 2011, when there was a gain of 50 members. Since that time, we have lost members EACH and EVERY year.

Due to successful fundraising and the frugality of the board, we have been able to stop the drain on our investments. There is enough in donations to fund two issues of the newsletter and help with the website fees instead of taking money out of the CD's. 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. In 2024 we earned over \$1900.00 from booth sales. I would ask that each of us keep donating items to the booth.

Ideas for items that sell well in the store are household items such as Pyrex bowls, wall décor, tabletop décor, lamps, doily's etc. 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 sell.

Overall, the financial health of Oregon FCE is good. 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

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Oregon FCE News

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Oregon Association for Family & Community Education

February 2025

2025 Oregon FCE Calendar

March

- 1** **Deadline for High School Essay**
15 **Deadline Heart of FCE**
 Deadline Character Counts
 Deadline 2nd & 3rd Essay Contest
17 **St. Patrick's Day**
19 **Spring Festival 9:00-2:00**
 Amity Fire Station
25 **Spring Board Meeting**
 ZOOM at 10 am
- April**
- 1** **April Fool's Day**
4 **Deadline for Oregon FCE News**
- Articles**
- 18** **Mail Oregon FCE News**
- 20** **Easter**
29 **ACWW Walk**
 Yamhill County will walk the 30th

Mission Statement of OR Association for Family
& Community Education
To strengthen individuals & families through
Continuing Education, Leadership Development,
Community Service

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