

FaCEs

The Official Publication of the
Alaska Association
for Family and Community
Education

December 2022, Issue 3 (2022-3)



State President's Report

Cheryl Peters

Fall Board Meeting, November 10, 2022

Farewell to Alaska

On September 3, 2022, John and I left our home in Homer, Alaska, for the last time.

After 14 years of part-time occupancy we said good-bye to our friends and headed up the Sterling Highway towards Anchorage. It was the beginning of a 9 day trip of 3600 miles to our home in California. As we left I felt sad that our time there with all its experiences had come to an end. We gained (and lost) some dear friends and enjoyed special times with memories that will endure. We are so fortunate to have known these special Alaskans.

We loved living in Homer and cherished the truly extraordinary scenery overlooking the Gerwingk Glacier and the majesty of the mountains just on the other side of the bay, the usually peaceful calm of Kachemak Bay accommodating ships of every size, the spouting of whales with mountains pointing skyward as a backdrop. I was constantly

reminded it is one of the most beautiful places I have seen. How fortunate was I to be there to experience it.

Living in Alaska was, for us, living a life-long dream. The people, the lifestyle, and the scenery are all part of a wonderful memory which we shall always cherish.

FCE has been an experience which I shall always treasure. It was fun to plan, work and play with the "girls" from the Kenai Peninsula and to view FCE from a broader perspective by my association with other clubs, national officers and ACWW. Thank you for the honor of serving as your state president.

Individuals, Clubs, Districts, Interested in the Oregon FCE Lessons

Rieta Walker

[I'm reprinting this because I've been asked for the link. RW]

A few of these zoom youtube.com lessons were used to good advantage at the 2022 Alaska FCE Annual Conference.

Here is the link to the list of lessons. You do not need Zoom even though it is in the link. Double click on the red title of the lesson you wish to view.

<https://www.oregon-fce.org/oregon-fce-zoom-lessons-on-youtube>

Historian's Report

Mary Hensel
November 10, 2022

Thank you to all who have sent me news and pictures throughout the year. Keep it coming.

We are missing you, Cheri. Thank you for all your work as our president.

Mary Hensel
11405 Hawkins Lane
Anchorage, AK 99516

ma_hensel@yahoo.com

(907)0344-1752

Membership Report

Barbara Thomas
November 10, 2022

At this time, I don't have any membership numbers. Alaska FCE Treasurer Mabel Quilliam must submit the first batch of membership forms to NAFCE by December 1, so if you haven't already sent her your 2023 membership forms and dues, please do so by November 20. Stragglers and new members' forms can be sent later.

Jill Martinson, Treasurer Elect, is in Israel and will be back before Thanksgiving. She would like to get together with Mabel to learn about processing membership and to process some with Mabel. The treasurer's books need to be audited before turning them over to the next treasurer. If it is not too early, we could do that at our November 29, Mat-Su FCE District meeting.

Editor's Report

Rieta Walker
November 10, 2022

Thanks to all who sent me items about their experiences at the 2022 annual conference. I was very pleased.

Another person who was pleased was Scott Teeple, Oregon FCE President. Apparently he read the entire newsletter; what pleased him most was seeing the comments on the Oregon Zoom lesson, "It's All About Me . . . Writing your Personal History" which he wrote.

He also told me he had posted *FaCEs* on the NAFCE site. He did not ask for permission. Henceforth, the yes or no permission to post a member's photo should specify NAFCE rather than UAF CES [I haven't asked for the newsletter to be posted there for several years].

During the annual conference, I held up and spoke about Alaska FCE's fossil ivory gavel and its framed Alaska state flag autographed by designer Benny Benson. I will include background about each in the upcoming

newsletter. They are currently in the care of the president elect.

The deadline for submitting reports and other items to me for the next newsletter will be the day before Thanksgiving, November 23 (2 weeks from today).

Thanks to everyone who sends me a report or article! My email address is:

rietaw@alaska.net

My USPS address is:
Rieta Walker
57060 East End Road
Homer AK 99603-9581

The deadline for submissions to *FaCEs* is November 23.



Spirit of Alaska Women Book Sales

Nancy Heckart, Chair

This past year was our best year for selling books for several years. I hope we can continue this type of sales as it helps our state income for the year. Alaska FCE receives \$5 for each book sold. Please send the \$5 through your district to Mabel Quilliam, Alaska FCE Treasurer.

The amount you charge above the \$5 per book goes to your club or district depending on whom you are selling the book for. A good fund raiser for your club or district. If you need more books, please let me know, and I will find a way to get them to you.

Districts, please let me know if you have a contact person overseeing book count and sales. It would help me to know how many books are out there at this point and give me an idea of whom to contact. I would like a count of unsold books for each district. If I don't have a contact person for your district, I will contact the district president for this information.

Thank you for your help.

Nancy Heckart, Chairman
907-349-3361 (land line)

Mailing Address
PO Box 110446
Anchorage AK 99511

Two Treasures

Rieta Walker

During the 2023 Alaska FCE Annual Conference, I took 2 treasures belonging to Alaska FCE out of their boxes, held them up, and told the members a bit about them.

Our organization owns an autographed Benny Benson Alaska flag. The flag is folded in a wooden case with a glass "window" for viewing and was given to us by Charlotte Jensen, long-time member and past president (1978-80). In 1927 Benny was a 7th grade Native boy living in



the Jessie Lee Home in Seward when he won the contest for the design of the Alaska flag. His design became the territorial flag and when the territory became a state on January 3, 1959, it became the state flag.

Benny explained the design: "The field is blue for the Alaska sky and the forget-me-not, an Alaska flower. The North Star is for the future of the state of Alaska, the most northerly in the union. The dipper is for the Great Bear symbolizing strength."

For more information see my sources: Wikipedia and this link: <https://alaskahistoricalociety.org/discover-alaska/kids-page/benny-benson-an-alaska-kid-who-made-history/>

Alaska FCE also owns a fossil ivory gavel. Here is the story as told in 1967 by Mrs. Fannie Johnson (with some editing by the Editor).

"My husband was superintendent of USSR & Mining Company in Ester.

When I attended Short Course [former name of Alaska FCE Annual Conference] (for five consecutive years) I noticed at the business meetings that the officers did not have a gavel, so I got busy.

"Al Retzlof was dredge master for one of the USSR dredges located at Goldstream. He did a lot of carving of the mammoth ivory tusks found as the men "stripped" the overburden. He made many beautiful things.

"Since Al was a good friend of ours, I asked him if I could buy one of his gavels. He said, "No," but he'd make a gavel for the Homemakers as a gift. He found the particular piece of mammoth ivory in 1948. This material is between 20 and 50 thousand years old. It took him, overall, about 10 hours to make it. But from the time he found it, it took from 3 to 4 years for the tusk to weather, as it would dry when out of the frozen muck.

"He cut the ivory up in small pieces and picked out the best ones. Then he let them lie for about 3 or 4 years to dry to see if they would show any checks. As a final test he put them near a stove at about 150 degrees and left them there for a couple of weeks. If the ivory didn't show any checks, it was then ready for final use."

The gavel was craved in 1954. In 1981 the gavel was appraised at \$250.00 by Larson, Inc. in Fairbanks. Not all statements on the appraisal are accurate.

#16572

Appraisal

DIAMONDS
WATCHES
JEWELRY

LARSON'S, INC.
405 NOBLE ST.
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
(907) 456-4141

ESTATES
APPRAISED
No 00938

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: DATE July 28, 1981

This is to Certify THAT WE ARE ENGAGED IN THE JEWELRY BUSINESS. Appraising Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry and Precious Stones of all descriptions and have been so engaged in said business for many years. We herewith certify that we have this day carefully examined the following listed and described articles, the property of

M. Wynola Possenti

ADDRESS SR Box 10596, Fairbanks, Alaska 479 2983

We estimate the value as listed for insurance or other purpose at the current retail value, excluding Federal and other taxes. In making this Appraisal, we do NOT agree to Purchase or replace the articles.

DESCRIPTION	APPRAISED VALUE
1. Mastadon or mammoth ivory gavel hand made by Al Retzlaf in 1954. The ivory was preserved in frozen ground from the ice age to 30 to 50 thousand years ago and found in the U.S.S.R. & M. Co. mining operations in 1954.	\$250.00

The foregoing Appraisal is made and accepted upon the express understanding that NO Liability or Responsibility is incurred by the Appraiser giving same.

SIGNED: *Ray A. Larson*



Rosie Burgess, PO Box 2605, Homer AK 99603.

CES Update

Julie Cascio

November 10, 2022

The IANRE Summit meeting on October 25-26, was the first time to meet in person in five years, with colleagues from MAPTS mining training, Fairbanks and Palmer UAF experiment farms and with natural resource, forestry and agriculture researchers, and 4-H, Ag, and HHFD agents.

2023 Annual Conference Invitation

Anchorage and Homer FCE Districts invite you to the 2023 Alaska FCE Annual Conference.

The theme is "Exploring the Magic of Knowledge". We plan to hold it at North Star Bible Camp September 18 to 22. We are doing it one week later than usual so more Cooperative Extension agents can participate.

We want you to give us ideas for classes and general sessions. If you have ideas or areas of interest that you would like us to explore, please let us know. You can contact Nancy Heckart, Anchorage FCE District, PO Box 110446, Anchorage AK 99511 or

Leif Albertson is now working in Anchorage. I continue with Food Safety Manager Certification and food preservation trainings, emergency preparedness events and updating *Using Alaska's Wild Berries & Other Wild Edibles* and other publications. Leslie Shallcross continues with the Children's Healthy Living research, Diabetes Self Management, Diabetes Prevention trainings and leading Strong Women classes. Sarah Lewis and Art Nash continue sharing topics in areas of interest in their areas as well.

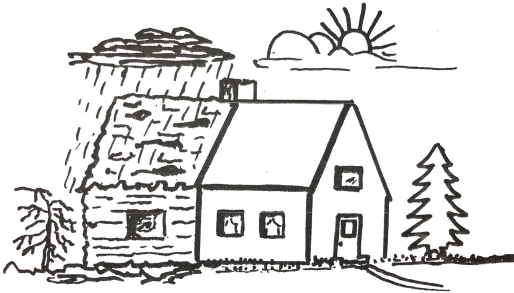
Julie Cascio
Health, Home and Family
Development

Matanuska-Susitna/Copper River
District
Cooperative Extension Service
University of Alaska Fairbanks
1509 S Georgeson Drive
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Office: (907) 745-3677

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www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination



RENEW IN '22
2022 Alaska FCE Annual
Conference Evaluations
Vice President Sue Selk

In general, the attendees of
the 2022 Alaska FCE Annual
Conference at North Star Bible
Camp have had a mostly
excellent experience, enjoying
interesting classes taught by
talented and knowledgeable
instructors in fun and
creative ways. Attendees
accomplished fun craft
projects, gained new
knowledge, met new and old
friends, "camped" together in
the comfy cabins, and enjoyed
good meals made by friendly
staff, who were also very

helpful with technical issues
faced by the Conference
leaders and presenters. As
Vice President, I have the job
of gathering the class and
overall evaluations, organ-
izing the "ratings" and
summarizing the comments,
concerns, and suggestions. . .
and after going through them
all, I get the picture that
the general experience of this
year's Conference was very
positive, and I think all
would agree to giving a huge
Thank You! to the lovely and
generous people who are behind
the scenes, planning,
arranging, communicating,
printing, and making the 2022
Alaska FCE Annual Conference
another excellent one!!.

[Sue sent me a copy of her
full report. She recorded
ratings and comments for each
class, but below I am
including only those for the
overall conference. The
complete report will be
provided to the chairs of next
year's conference.- Editor]

The overall rating for the
Conference was excellent by 10
and great by 8.

Comments (summarized):

- Met expectations, learned new
things, plenty of time, met
new people
- As a first timer I learned a
lot!
- Overall I enjoyed my time at
conference
- Very good meals, friendly
staff, beautiful camp, great

teaching by knowledgeable instructors, and FUN!

Other suggestions:

- More free time please
- Would like to hear formal report on National FCE conference by Alaska representative who attended
- Can send email version of conf. brochure to few w/o mail service?
- Would like larger print version of brochure
- Need phone numbers for attendees (while at camp!) and emergency camp number to reach attendees at camp
- Brochure should ask for email addresses for future contact



District Reports

Anchorage

Nancy Heckart, President
December 7, 2022

Our Anchorage Council met on the first Tuesday of each month except July and August. We enjoyed a Christmas luncheon get-together at China Lights

Restaurant December 6 to wind up the end of 2022.

This year we completed 38 fleece blankets for Hope Center Incentive for homeless women entering their educational/job training program.

We donated \$350 to the Royal Family Kids Camp. This is a camp specially for foster children and their foster parents.

We donated \$350 to Nine Star Education & Employment Services. This is an opportunity for young people between 16-24, who have dropped out of high school or have graduated but face barriers to advance their education and career. Check their website to learn more about their program or give me a call to find out more.

We donated \$350 to the William Tyson Elementary Library to buy books for their Battle of the Books Program. One of our members volunteers there and indicated that there were no funds to purchase the books for that program. The Battle of the Books is a statewide program sponsored by the Alaska Association of School Librarians intended to broaden reading interests, increase reading comprehension, and promote academic excellence. Each year a committee of teachers and librarians select book lists and write questions for all grade levels.

Our two new members gave excellent programs. Lynn Hansen's hands-on planting a container garden class helped us plant our gardens with lettuce, mint, and

an herb. We all went home with a garden we had created. Debra Mestas shared a nutrition program from a professional viewpoint that answered questions we all had wondered about and gave lots of good information we could put into use. We learned we had gained two new members who were good resources when we had questions in those areas.

This year we had 7 of our members attend the 2022 Alaska FCE Annual Conference, "RENEW IN '22". We would like to thank Mat-Su and North Pole for delivering a great conference which we all enjoyed.

Homer

Rosie Burgess, President
November 10, 2022

Now that Alaska FCE approved the bylaw change that allows districts with only one club to combine their affairs, KP FCE has done just that. We will actually still have two presidents. Anita Harry will be President for the Homer Club and Rosie Burgess will be President for the district. We did this mainly for report writing purposes. Our Secretary will be Rieta Walker and our Treasurer will be Marcia Lowe. Rieta and Marcia will preform duties for both club and district. We feel this will really streamline our duties.

At state conference, we announced that we would not have a retreat this year. As it turns out, that was a good decision as many of our members are experiencing medical issues or are moving out of state. We just don't have the woman power to undertake the task

at this time. We will focus our efforts on coordinating with the Anchorage group, to put on the state conference next fall.

The Raise-a-Reader project remains high on our priorities. We delivered 46 more packets to South Peninsula Hospital this fall.

We are also sewing fleece blankets for the women who have been rescued from human trafficking thru Priceless Alaska.

Typically the winter months are low key for our group with most of our activities in the spring, summer, and fall. This year looks to follow the same pattern. We will have a Christmas dinner with Paula Riley hosting on December 14. Perhaps one meeting a month in January and February, weather permitting. Then gear up in March. We will need to plan an event to recruit some new members.

Mat-Su District

Barbara Thomas, President
November 10, 2022

Not much time has gone by since our report at the Conference in September. Mat-Su members have been resting and recovering from three weeks of the State Fair and, we think, a very successful conference.

Our clubs, Wasilla and Talkeetna, are having fund raising quilt raffles.

Northern District

Dianne Doody, 17 Mile President
November 2022

We have one new member and a NEW President for the next two years. HELEN BERNSTEIN is the president beginning January 1.

Hours given to me: 4310 (many members never gave any but I know there are a lot more). 1825 volunteer hours given by two members include church work, health fairs, NAMI, food bank, Earth Day, Creamers Field, Senior center, and included such activities as passing out food boxes and taking Seniors to doctor appointments.

Members are still knitting hats; 250 have been given out so far, and Karen will give the count when the 200 or more are given out this month.

We have passed out 390 Raise-A-Reader kits so far and have 198 waiting to go to Eielson Air Force Base, Fairbanks Birthing Center, Women's Shelter and many more.

Spirit of Alaska Women books have been placed at both the North Pole and Fairbanks libraries which includes, the school district and Rassmuson Library at UAF and also at the Bear Gallery at Pioneer Park. No year end report as of today by our chairperson. We have sold, by my count, 12 books between the gift shop at the Senior Center, bazaars, and by members at large. More books have been placed around town at various places.

We're still making 130 Christmas stockings for the Children's Orthopedic Hospital in Seattle and the Rotary Club in North Pole. Gave the Rotary Club 85 hats also for the Teenagers.

A few members are working at home sewing blankets and burb pads for Raise-a-Reader kits, large blankets to sell at bazaars etc. I forgot we gave "Meals on Wheels" 100 hats; they were greatly appreciated.

If I forgot anything I'll put it in a note for next year .

Have a great Christmas and a wonderful NEW YEAR.

Alaska Association for Family & Community Education

Fall Board Meeting

via Zoom

Tuesday, November 11, 2022

Call to order by President Cheryl Peters at 10:07 A.M.

Pledge of Allegiance said by all.

Homemaker's Creed read by Cheryl Peters

Roll call - Those present were President Cheryl Peters, Vice President Susan Selk, Secretary Kathy Huston, Historian Mary Hensel, Membership Barbara Thomas, Finance/Budget Nancy Heckart, Editor Rieta Walker, District representatives: Kenai/Homer, Rosie Burgess; Northern, Dianne Doody and Barbara Thoma; CES Agent Julie Cascio.

Agenda - Kathy Huston moved that the agenda be accepted as printed. The motion was seconded and passed.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting were approved with corrections: the dates of the 2023 Alaska FCE Annual Conference are September 18 - 22 [not 18 - 11]; the due date for membership forms is November 20 [not October 20]; Hellen Bernstein was one of the first timers [not Jill Martinson].

Officers' Reports

President Cheryl Peters - FCE has been an experience which I shall always treasure. It was fun to plan, work and play with the "girls" from the Kenai Peninsula and to view FCE from a broader perspective by my association with other clubs, national officers and ACWW. Thank you for the honor of serving as your state president.

Please send annual reports to her California address:
Cheryl Peters
35471 Eagle Court
Raymond CA 93653

Vice President Susan Selk has been working on the Conference evaluations and has summarized them. Members had an excellent experience at the Conference.

Secretary Kathleen Huston "It has been a great experience being the secretary of Alaska FCE."

Treasurer Mabel Quilliam was not present. no report. [Mabel submitted a Treasurer's report on November 29; it is printed below. - Editor]

Historian Mary Hensel thanked all who sent pictures and articles. Please keep them coming. She thanked Cheri for the work she did as our President.

District Reports

See full reports in *FaCEs*.

Anchorage - Nancy Heckart We are down to 18 people in our club.

Kenai Peninsula/Homer - Rosie Burgess We have 2 presidents, one for the club and one for district as we have been allowed to do by the new bylaw that was passed. Our winters are slow as some members leave for the winter.

Mat-Su - Barbara Thomas We are recovering from working at the Fair. Our clubs have been busy working on our memberships.

Northern - Dianne Doody We have a new president, Hellen Bernstein, starting in January. We are doing a lot of community work, having work parties, and making projects.

Correspondence and Announcements

None to share

Cooperative Extension Service update - Julie Cascio

IANRE had a summit meeting, and we met in person in Fairbanks. Interviewed 2 people for a position on the Kenai Peninsula. See full report in *FaCEs*.

Standing Committees

See full reports in *FaCEs*.

Editor/*FaCEs* - Rieta Walker thanked all that sent in articles for *FaCEs*. Deadline to submit to the next newsletter will be November 23. She also mentioned that the last issue of *FaCEs* had been posted by Scott Teeples, Oregon FCE President, on the NAFCE site. In the future

permission for one's photo to be posted should specify NAFCE rather than UAF.

Alaska FCE owns 2 treasures, an Alaska flag autographed by Benny Benson and a fossil ivory gavel, that she held up and spoke about earlier.

Membership - Barbara Thomas I do not have any membership information now.

Finance - Nancy Heckart We have not had any meetings since conference. The full budget was printed in *FaCEs*.

Scholarship - Sylvia Halsey - absent; no report.

New Business

2022 Alaska FCE Annual Conference Audit

Barbara Thomas stated that Mat-Su will be returning the \$1,000 seed money to the state. She stated that the committee tried to keep costs for attendees down and said that they came very close with only \$120.00 profit. Conference audit will be done soon. She will give the audit report at the spring board meeting.

Barbara remarked that the bylaws are to be reviewed this year. She thinks that it is time to print a revised edition.

Nancy Heckart - Any suggestions for next year's conference will be appreciated; once the evaluations of this year's conference are received, they will be considered.

New Appointments

Heart of FCE - Kathy Huston will be chair for 2023.

The other *ad hoc* committees to be appointed are a Nominating Committee and a Bylaws Revision Committee. These are to be appointed by the incoming President; she should also review the Standing Committees to see when current terms end.

Adjournment at 10:50 A.M.

Kathy Huston
Secretary

**Alaska FCE Treasurer's Report
November 29, 2022
Mabel Quilliam
Alaska FCE Treasurer**

Bank Balance as of September 25, 2022 \$11,240.76

INCOME:

2023 Membership Dues		
46 Individuals	\$ 2,070.00	
33 Seniors	\$ 1,369.50	
8 Family	\$ 460.00	
<i>Spirit of Alaska Women</i> Book Sales 12 books @ \$5	<u>\$ 60.00</u>	
Total Income	\$ 3,959.50	

BALANCE PLUS INCOME \$15,200.26

EXPENSES

2023 National FCE Dues	<u>\$ 3,009.50</u>	
Total Expenses	\$ 3,009.50	

BANK STATEMENT BALANCE \$12,190.76

DEDICATED FUNDSi

State Scholarship Fund	\$ 200.00	
National Delegate Fund	\$1,228.88	
State Conference Development Fund	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
Total Dedicated Funds	\$1,928.88	

WORKING BUDGET \$10,261.88