

FaCEs

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

October 2024, Issue 2 (2024-2)

MOST IMPORTANT

75th Alaska FCE Annual Conference Save the Dates!

Camp Maranatha has been reserved for the 2025 Alaska FCE Annual Conference. The dates are September 22-26.

More is to be determined at the upcoming Fall Board Meeting at 10:00 A.M. on October 23. This will be a zoom meeting. Members will be notified of details for joining the meeting prior to that date.

At Board meetings any member may speak, but only Board members are allowed to vote. Board members are the Executive Committee (elected officers), Coordinators of Standing Committees, and two certified representatives from each District Association.

From Rieta

Both Rosie Burgess and Nancy Heckart have stated that their districts cannot put on the 2025 Alaska FCE Annual Conference and that a new way of doing so must be found.

from TJ

I know getting organized and producing the elements for



conference can be especially challenging for many of us as we are often busy in our own lives and communities. Our efforts, I truly feel, are appreciated best when we come together to benefit one another. The many parts make a wonderful whole. I will help in as many ways as I can to produce an enjoyable conference next year for us all to experience. I sincerely hope my efforts will not be lacking in fellowship with you as many hands make light work. When you speak to your clubs about how we should best move forward, please give careful consideration to perhaps organizing a steering committee that is made up from each district or even each club. Here's why: your state officers are all in the Mat-Su District. A steering committee of just state officers will not be effective. The idea of trying to nominate at least two people from each district to search out and find members willing to contribute may seem like a tall order, but if all of the committee members are in the same district, it's going to cause a hardship. Next year is the 75th Alaska FCE Annual Conference. I know if we all come together, we can make it a

memorable event for only the best of reasons! Let's work together to build each other up and produce a phenomenal diamond jubilee event!

I look forward to hearing what you have to say on this matter at the October 23rd zoom meeting. Ten o'clock sharp!

from the President

Mabel Quilliam
September 19, 2024

The first thing I would like to mention is that the yearly membership dues have not changed for 2025. They will remain the \$45 for Individuals, and \$41.50 for 80 years. and above, and \$47.50 for Families.

I have finally finished typing the 2024 Alaska FCE Member Handbook, I have sent a draft to all the club presidents, Rieta Walker and Bonnie Dinkel. I have received some requested changes from Rieta, and will do a final draft after discussion during the state conference.

I have sent an email copy of *The Hearth Fire Series*, #77 "The Silent Killer - Ovarian Cancer", #78 "Family Meals for a Happier Family", #79 "What Is the American Red Cross?", #80 "What Does Food Security Look Like?" and #81 "Spilling the Beans on Beans" to a lot of the members whose email

addresses I had. If anyone didn't get one, but would like to have one, please send me an email to: mmquilliam@yahoo.com or give me a call at: (907) 232-4753.

I went to the National FCE Conference in Florence, Kentucky, in July. We had some really great lessons. Our theme for three years is "**Food Security**". Rates of food insecurity are higher among Native Americans and Native Alaskan families. We talked about the problems some people have in being able to get food. I work at our Food Pantry in Talkeetna and see the problems we face with not having enough food for the families that come there. It was discussed about the amount of food that is wasted per family in a year. Approximately 35% of all food is wasted, with consumers throwing away 1 lb. of food per person per day, costing a family of four \$1500 a year in wasted food.

Another class was on "Leadership". Leadership is not just a position, not even a job or office. Leadership is an awareness of the needs of a group or organization. It means an individual will take on responsibility and actively involve themselves where needed.

We had a class on "Dining Etiquette" which taught us the

do's and don'ts when dining. We were shown how to do place settings for formal and informal dining. If you are invited to dinner at someone's house, always send them a thank you note. One of the do's is to try a little of each course served. One of the don'ts is never place items on the table that are not a part of the meal.

It is that time of the year again, where we will nominate a new president. I have enjoyed being your president these last two years, and I want all of you to know that I would fully enjoy being nominated for another two years, if you will have me.

Benny Benson Alaska Flag Has a New Home

Nancy Heckart

On July 9, Loretta Bradon, Vi Markson, and I shared an Alaska Flag Day celebration with staff, students, and members from organizations that support AK Child & Family. There were lots of activities for the young people, informational booths for those who wanted to know more about the organization, and lots of good picnic food. This is an event that is held every year on Alaska Flag Day. The program highlighted Benny Benson's life and growing up in the Jesse Lee Home [a



predecessor of AK Child & Family].

Benny Benson's original submission for the flag competition.

Benny Benson was a 7th grader when he entered his design for the Alaska flag – the rest is history. Under Discover Alaska's History – Benny Benson: An Alaskan Kid Who Made History you can learn more about him.

I do not know the story behind the flag Charlotte Jensen shared with us for many years. I do know that it was handmade and signed by Benny Benson and given to someone who he felt had made a difference in the life of someone else, a community, or the state. He delivered the flag after the deed was done as a thank you. I presented the flag to AK Child & Family as a perfect ending to the program. They were excited to receive the flag as they did not have one of his handmade signed flags. They plan to display the flag, and I hope to visit to see it. I felt that the flag had come

to a place where it had some history to share.



Our Second treasure

Rieta Walker

Our second treasure, a mammoth ivory gavel carved by Al Retzloff especially for our organization and presented at the 1955 annual meeting, will soon have a new home. Brenda Sadler is arranging for the presentation of the gavel and its documentation to the Alaska Mining Hall of Fame Foundation in Fairbanks.



Food Security NAFCE Three Year Project

Rieta Walker

At a general session at the Alaska FCE Annual Conference, Leslie Shallcross, CES Agent, presented "Food Deserts, Sustainable Food Systems".

Sufficient food and sufficient access to food are critical for healthy and thriving families and communities. Yes, there are food deserts in Alaska. Do you live in or know of one or more?

The cost of food may prohibit people from eating well. South Dakota has a state sales tax. Their governor has proposed that the sales tax on food be repealed. According to the US Department of Agriculture, an average family of 4 in South Dakota spends about \$1,200 a month on food. Eliminating the 4.2% tax on food would save that household about \$600 a year.

Whenever I go to the grocery store, I check the marked down meat. In the past I often found something to cook or freeze immediately. Lately the space for the marked down meat is empty. I think this is because more shoppers are selecting marked down products



Treasurer Jill Martinson presents the 2025 budget; also pictured Barbara Thomas, TJ Banes, Mabel Quilliam, Sue Selk

Treasurer's Report

See the minutes, the Treasurer's Report, and the Alaska FCE 2025 Budget below.



Julie Cascio, HHFD Agent installing officers: Mable Quilliam, Sue Selk, Jill Martinson, TJ Barnes, Mary Hensel

Historian's Report

Mary Hensel
September 2024

It was exciting to hear that the 74th Alaska FCE Annual Conference is to be held at a new venue, Camp Maranatha, near Big Lake. A big THANK YOU to all who sent me news clippings and obituaries. They have been added to the history books which will be available for viewing at the Conference. I am also bringing to camp the history books of the disbanded Flattop-Forget-Me-Not FCE club. Hopefully someone from Fairbanks can take them to the archives at UAF. There will be an assortment of all-occasion cards available for individual use. Help yourselves. There were obituaries of 9 active or former members of FCE brought to my attention since last September. It is amazing to me how diverse, active, and what long lives these remarkable women lived.

Mary Hensel
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FaCES/Editor's Report

Rieta Walker
September 26, 2024

Thank you to everyone who sent their reports to me before the annual meeting. This helps me get out the newsletter in a more timely way.

Any of you may send items for *FaCES* to me. I would especially like to have stories about this annual conference. An article might be about a particular class or event or about the entire conference. The deadline for *FaCES* is October 10.

If you email your reports or stories, I must remind you that I cannot open doc.x documents and sometimes docx documents. I have been able to open PDF and Pages formats. I can also open Excel and Numbers formats.

My preferred email address is rietaw@alaska.net

My USPS address is
Rieta Walker
422 Spruceview Avenue
Homer AK 99603-7452.

Alaska FCE Membership Report

Barbara Thomas
September 26, 2024

Below is the 2024 membership by district and by club. The report shows each club's membership by individual, senior and families. Our total membership in 2024 is 98 versus 100 in 2023. In July the report was incorrect showing 100 total members. I counted some new members twice, so 98 is

correct. Again, there is no dues increase for the 2025 membership year. However, I still want to encourage clubs to help their members pay their dues with membership grants.

I am handing out the 2025 membership packets to the clubs. Each packet includes a few membership forms, an instructions sheet, plus each club's 2024 membership list. It is helpful if you return a copy of your membership list with any changes noted so that the treasurer does not have to review every form to see if there are any changes.

As usual, I am reminding you to send your first batch of membership forms to the treasurer, Jill Martinson, in November so she can meet the deadline of December 1 for the first batch to be sent to National FCE. We realize that it takes most clubs two meetings to gather all their dues and forms, but don't hold them up waiting for stragglers. Stragglers' and new members' forms and dues can be sent at any time

2024 Membership by District by Club

As of September 6, 2024

State		
Individual		52
Senior		32
Family		<u>7 = 14</u>
Total		98

Anchorage District		
Individual		3
Seniors		<u>9</u>
Total		12

Homer District		
Individual		3
Senior		2
Family		<u>1 = 2</u>
Total		7

Mat-Su District		
Lazy River		
Individual		5
Senior		2
Family		<u>5 = 10</u>
Total		17

She-Mon-Sun		
Individual		6
Senior		<u>4</u>
Total		10

Talkeetna		
Individual		2
Senior		<u>3</u>
Total		5

Wasilla		
Individual		8
Senior		<u>3</u>
Total		11

Mat-Su District Total		43
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Northern District		
17 Mile		
Individual		17
Senior		9
Family		<u>1 = 2</u>
Total		28

Tok-A-Tan		
Individual		<u>4</u>

Northern District Total		32
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Greater Alaska		
Individual		4



Leslie Shallcross and Barbara Thomas present longevity certificates

35 1989
 Marjorie Mueller
 Lazy River FCE

40 1984
 Charlene Stewart
 Willow She-Mon-Sun

45 1979
 Rosie Burgess Homer FCE
 Elizabeth Keech Tok FCE

60 1964
 Rieta Walker Homer FCE

2024 Longevity Service Awards

These certificates are printed for each individual and are issued by the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service. They are signed by Home, Health, and Family Development Leader Leslie Shallcross and CES Director Jodie Anderson.



**Still in the Works
 New Revised Handbook**
 Rieta Walker

Those receiving awards this year:

years service FCE membership year

5 2019
 Helen Foster Lazy River FCE

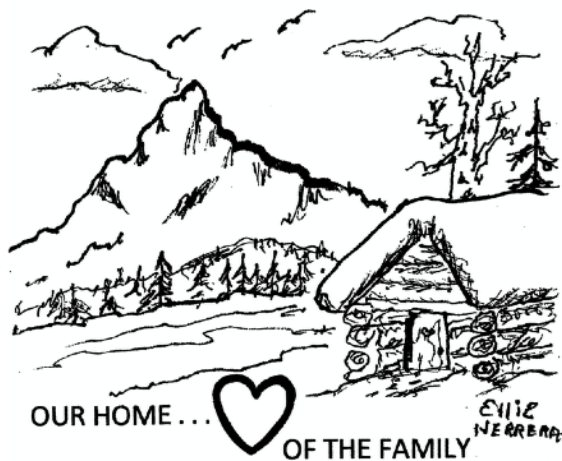
10 2014
 Sharon Benson Lazy River FCE
 Sylvia Halsey Willow She-Mon-Sun

25 1999
 Ellen Lentz Lazy River FCE
 Susan Reed Lazy River FCE
 Susan Selk Wasilla FCE
 Eleanor Smith 17 Mile FCE
 Nedra Wilcox Wasilla FCE

30 1994
 Barbara Thomas Lazy River FCE

Years ago when I heard Hazel Hurd talk about the bylaws, I didn't think that I would become one of the handbook and bylaws ladies!

President Mabel Quilliam has s been working on the handbook. She emailed a copy of a draft to key Alaska FCE members but got little response. At the conference Bonnie Dinkel and I spoke briefly to each other about the handbook and are continuing to work on it. We will send our suggestions to Mabel.



From Tj Barnes

Hello to everyone. I am home and taking a minute to recover from all the fun I had at conference. I already miss you all as I feel as though I got to know many of you even better through our interactions this year. I got to help take out sutures, enjoyed a camp fire with you, cooked for you (which truly feeds my soul) and I even got to play dice in my comfy jammies! Such fun!

Many of you joined me for "Simple Cream Scones and Easy Faux Devonshire Cream" class, and I hope you enjoyed the experience. I know I enjoyed the energy you all gave back to me. I am sending the recipes to Rieta to add to the *FaCEs* newsletter. Reach out to me with any questions and/or suggestions for class next year. I enjoy cooking for you and would gladly give consideration to any suggestions you would be interested in next year.

Simple Cream Scones

2 cups flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
3 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
5 tablespoons butter, grated (finely)
1 cup heavy whipping cream

Grate the butter finely and place in freezer.

In a bowl, mix together the flour, baking powder, salt and sugar.

Add the frozen butter to the dry ingredients in the bowl. Toss to combine until all the butter pieces are coated in the flour mixture.

Add the heavy whipping cream and fold to mix. Do not over mix or the scones will be tough.

Once the dough has formed a loose ball, place in a plastic freezer bag and chill in fridge.

Once dough has chilled, press into a flat disc (still inside the plastic freezer bag).

Divide the dough into as many servings as you wish. (As little as six and as many as 12.)

Place freezer bag either in fridge or freezer until you are ready to bake.

To bake from frozen, preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place scones two inches apart on baking tray. Bake until a pale, light tan, about 20-25 minutes.

To bake from fresh, preheat oven to 425 degrees. Bake about 17-22 minutes.

Allow scones to cool on baking tray for 5-10 minutes. Remove to cooling rack.

Faux Devonshire Cream

4 ounces cream cheese
1 tablespoon sugar
2 tablespoons sour cream, room temperature
1 cup heavy whipping cream

Add the cream cheese, sugar and sour cream to the bowl of an electric mixer. Cream until smooth and well blended. Add the heavy whipping cream and whip until thick, soft peaks form. Do not over beat. Refrigerate at least one hour. Enjoy!.

From Stephanie Harry

On Tuesday afternoon, the first class I took was Dye Tye. I finished my T-shirt in the class.



The second class I took was Cream Scones and Faux Devonshire Cream; it was a good class. The third class I took was Taming Inflammation; I learned a lot in the class.

On Wednesday afternoon the first class was Home Energy Efficiency; I learned more this time in this class. The second class was Simple Slippers. I cut the pattern, and the instructor did the sewing for me. [Stephanie's

slippers involved the entire process of tracing her foot, and developing the pattern as well as cutting out the pieces and sewing them together - RW]. The last class I took was Kupreanof Island, My New Home. Sharon showed a lot of pictures of her place.

The food was good. I liked seeing the women again. I had fun there.





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In Memoriam

Mary Hensel
September 26, 2024

What long, busy and productive lives these women lived! We are very grateful for their work in FCE. May they rest in Peace

Regina Clare Charlton (October 2, 1937 - November 2, 2023) grew up on a farm near Nashville, Tennessee. After her marriage to Forrest, they moved to Anchorage where they had 2 sons and lived out their lives. Regina was active in the family business and many community organizations. She had been an FCE member since 1984, 38 years, holding many council and club offices including the last presidency of the Anchorage Forget-Me-Not FCE club which disbanded in 2021. She was an excellent seamstress, a long time active member of Log Cabin Quilters and Pioneers of Alaska. She was a church member all her life. She did her work very quietly and efficiently. Her family enjoyed their remote cabin in Alaska, especially during hunting and berry-picking seasons.

Dorothy Eleanor Hermansen (December 4, 1927 - January 8, 2024), a life-long Alaskan passed away peacefully surrounded by family at the age of 96. She was the oldest of 12 children, and she and her husband of 64 years had 6 daughters. Dorothy belonged to the Extension Homemakers of Kasilof and later was a member of Greater Alaska FCE. She often attended state conferences with another Kasilof member Kay Estle. On a national trip she became friends with Evie Foster. Dorothy's family homesteaded in Coho where she grew vegetables, harvested berries, and canned fish. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, knitting, and watching General Hospital on TV. In 1949 the couple purchased a set net site where she remained

active at 95 years of age. She was one of the original elders of the Kasilof Community Church and recognized as the eldest elder of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe in 2018.

Helen J. Studnek (August 26, 1927 - January 21, 2024), a long-time Alaskan, was a 55-year member of Elaurets FCE club and continued membership in Flattop-Forget-Me-Not club when Elaurets disbanded. She and her husband had 2 sons and 2 daughters. Her obituary was very short and there was no notice of memorial plans. I remember her as a very private person who attended all FCE meetings when she was in town and able to find a ride. She was helpful at the annual bazaar in Anchorage. Many winters she was a snowbird flying to Arizona.

Elverda Emma Lincoln (July 16, 1923 - January 31, 2024) was born in Glencoe, Minnesota, and she was the eldest of 14 children. She enlisted in the Navy during WW II where she met her husband, Robert. In 1950 the young family drove up the Alcan, settled in Wasilla, homesteaded on Fairview Loop where the Snowshoe School sits today and raised 3 children. They joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and served in various capacities including 4 missions. She is the author of 3 books: *Udder Confusion*, *Alaska Animal Antics*, and *Peeling the Peelings*. She enjoyed quilting, making pot holders, and delivering words of wisdom. Her membership in the Wasilla FCE club spanned 68 years, and she attended state conferences most of those years.

Alma Ruth Spera Rider (May 17, 1934 - March 28, 2024), was born in New York and was raised and married in the same family home. She and her husband had 2 sons. After visiting one son at Eielson AFB, they relocated to North Pole, Alaska, in 1984. She had learned to sew at a young age because she had reached her adult height of 5'10" at age 11. She had many jobs besides her volunteer work starting with baby-sitting at 25 cents an hour, then as a teller at a credit union, administrative assistant at North Pole Senior Center, and manager of a bed and breakfast. She was a long time member of 17 Mile Homemakers FCE where she kept conversations going with her daredevil experiences and taught sewing and cooking classes. Her life included long-time church membership, being an honorary mascot for the North Pole softball team, and volunteering at the Senior Center.

Shirley Ann Margaret Germaine (September 19, 1935 - July 13, 2024) was born in Kalispell, Montana. From Cut Bank, Montana, the family moved to Seattle, then Kennewick, Washington, in 1949. She was a graduate of the University of Washington in 1957 with a BA in Elementary Education and later earned a Masters in Library Science. She taught in Germany with the Army and in Seattle before teaching in Anchorage at Woodland Park, Oceanview, and O'Malley Elementary Schools ending there as the librarian. Her retirement years were spent volunteering with animal groups and her church in many capacities, traveling and

enjoying outdoor Alaska. She was a former member of Flattop-Forget-Me-Not FCE club in the 1980s and '90s.

B. Charlene Stewart (July 27, 1934 - August 4, 2024)

One week after her 90th birthday party that had been planned by her daughter for 3 years, Charlene passed away. I never heard if she was able to enjoy the party, but all FCE members were invited. Charlene was born in Bath, New York, and lived for many years in the Talkeetna area. When Alaska FCE Annual Conferences were held in Willow, she attended as a day-timer and arrived at the banquet in her beautiful blue kuspuk.

Florence Stebbins-Penrod (1923 - September 2024) passed away at the age of 101 at her home in Homer. She worked at Lockheed during WW II fabricating parts for the XP38 Lightning and served in the Cadet Nurse Corps. She and her husband moved to Alaska in 1953, living in Gulkana, Glennallen, Anchorage, and Homer. In her early years in Anchorage she was active with Campfire Girls, Homemakers, and local charities. As a resident of Homer since 1983, she was known for her love of sandhill cranes, her chocolate chip cookies, and generous, nurturing spirit.

Carol Lee Arnold Lombardo (December 19, 1939 - September 10, 2024) was born in Glendale, Arizona. She attended Laverne College in California, and, after graduating, she wanted to go the farthest away in the US that she could and accepted a teaching

position in Sitka, Alaska. The following year she arrived in Palmer where she met her husband and remained for 62 years. She was a stay at home mom to 5 children and a member of the Cheechoos Homemakers club, winning the honor, Homemaker of the Year in the late '60s, now called Heart of FCE. She won Grand Champion prizes at the State Fair for outdoor grown vegetables. She later learned Scottish Highland dancing and won more prizes at the Highland Games. While directing the choir at her church, she accepted the offer to direct the music in the local production of "Cotton Patch Gospel" featuring bluegrass music. The show was a resounding success leading to extended performances and an Anchorage Daily News review rating the show on par with the national touring production of "Les Miserables". Bluegrass opened another field of interest. She taught herself to play the banjo and bass fiddle. As Colony Stage Entertainment director at the State Fair for 20 years, she met musicians from around the world. She also volunteered at Palmer's Colony House Museum and the Clarkdale Historical Society and the Verde Valley Archeological Center in Arizona. Her spry wit and adventurous spirit will be missed.



CES Update

Julie Cascio

September 26, 2024

The Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension is led by Director Jodie Anderson. AFES and CES are in that system.

UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Health, Home and Family Development Agents continue to work with people in our communities and around the state on emergency preparedness, financial education, food preservation, healthy living, and other subject matters as they come up.

Art Nash, statewide, brought in AgrAbility to find assistance for people with ability issues for farming, fishing, forestry and gardening. He continues working on healthy homes, aging in place and living off the grid.

Leslie Shallcross, Tanana District, continues with the Children's Healthy Living grant through Hawaii University. She is offering training in Chronic Disease Self Management and Diabetes Self Management.

Leif Albertson, Anchorage, works on a variety of subjects.

Sarah Lewis, Southeast, continues doing food presentation classes through zoom. She uses her boat to go to villages and towns throughout her district, with grant help from SEARHC and the Tribal funding Heidi Radar has received for food sustainability to teach a variety of subjects.

Julie Cascio has continued setting up, finding proctors, and teaching food safety certification predominately in rural areas throughout the state. Libraries, churches, school staff, rural campuses and other organizations provide proctors; AK DEC lets food services know of options for learning and earning this certification.

Jackie Hrabok, Nome, reindeer research faculty, is beginning to teach food preservation in that area.

Kenai Peninsula HHFD position is not currently being offered.

4-H agents Marla Lowder, Fairbanks, and Darren Snyder, Southeast, and staff in various communities work with youth around the state.

CES Horticulture and Agriculture Agents Steve Brown, Mat-Su; Casey Matney, Kenai Peninsula, and research grant people share their research knowledge. Examples are research on soils (Caley Gasch), birch tree tapping (Jan Dawe) and plants that grow in Alaska (Mingchu Zang, Bob Van Veldhuizen) and many more.

Julie Cascio
Health, Home and Family Development

Matanuska-Susitna/Copper River
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We acknowledge the Alaska Native nations upon whose ancestral lands our campuses reside. In Fairbanks, our Troth Yeddha' Campus is located on the ancestral lands of the Dena people of the lower Tanana River.



District Reports

Anchorage
Nancy Heckart, President
October 2024

Anchorage club/district meets on the first Tuesday of every month at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Huffman Road. We usually hold our blanket workshops on the third Tuesday of the month at the church, also.

We have continued to make tied fleece blankets for the ladies at

Hope Center as they enter the program and their stay at Hope Center. These blankets are theirs to keep and take with them when they leave the Center. We have a workshop at least once a month and make 5 to 10 blankets depending on how many members are in town/state. Women who stay at the Center have a safe place to stay and sleep. They have an opportunity to get the help they need, take classes, training, and enter programs that help them get a better handle on their lives when they leave the Hope Center Program for Homeless Women.

We sold Rondy buttons to help promote Fur Rondy and provide a place where people could get Rondy buttons on the south end of town. We also use this as a fundraiser for other service projects we like to support.

This year we are donating \$350 to the Food Bank, AK Child & Family, Royal Family Camp (summer camp for foster children), and 9 Star (a program for youth 15 to 26).

The 9 Star mission is, through education and employment services, to help Alaskans get a job and advance on the job! The 9 Star vision is to deliver services that prevent homelessness and improve the quality of life for all Alaskans. Learn more about their program by going to Nine Star Education & Employment Services. This can be a next step when they age out of Covenant House.

We enjoyed a luncheon at the O'Malley Golf Course just before New Years and another one when

our snowbirds returned home from Arizona.

We have had a busy and productive year for a small group who weathered a record snowfall last winter. We had 5 members attend the Alaska FCE Annual Conference and 3 who couldn't attend because of other commitments and who really missed being there.

Homer

Rosie Burgess, President
September 26, 2024

Homer FCE was busy for the first part of the year making plans for our annual retreat which was held in April at the Quality Inn in Kenai, Alaska. This year's theme was "Old Time Stories Matter". Details of the retreat can be seen in the Spring copy of *FaCEs*. It is undetermined at this time if there will be a retreat in 2025.

Homer has presented 100 Raise-a-Reader® packets to the South Peninsula Hospital this year. These include handouts teaching parents how important reading is to their child as well as a hard back book for their collection.

Rieta Walker has arranged for our original Alaska state flag autographed by Benny Benson to be given to AK Child & Family in Anchorage where it will have a permanent home. The fate of the ivory gavel is still in limbo.

Hearth Fire Series leaflets continue to be presented at our club meetings by our Vice President, Sandy Garity. We

learned about ovarian cancer and sharing family meals.

Fun activities we enjoyed this year were our Un-Birthday Party where we celebrate all of our birthdays at once. This year we went to the Blue Bus in Anchor Point for burgers and milkshakes. Later, we stopped at the Anchor Point Greenhouse for a breath of spring.

A rock snake was discovered in downtown Homer so we decided to paint rocks to add to the collection. We were sure to include our FCE logo on each rock.

We had a beautiful sunny day for our annual picnic at Rosie's house. Club treated us to reindeer hotdogs and members provided the sides.

Our trip to the State Fair in Ninilchik was fun. We toured all the exhibits, food booths, and commercial exhibits, but the highlight for most of us was the pig races.

We are proud of Sandy Garity for being named the Alaska State Heart of FCE winner this year. She truly is a hardworking grass roots member of Homer FCE and exemplifies the person the award was meant to honor.

Mat-Su District

Barbara Thomas, President
September 26, 2024

Mat-Su District FCE members along with 17 Mile members have, as you can imagine, been busy since

spring putting together the 74th annual Alaska FCE Conference. Working with a new camp has taken extra time, but we are pleased with the facility. We think it will be a great Conference. We are pleased with the registration. We have 30 full-time registrations plus a couple of full-time daily attendees and several part-time daily attendees. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

We were busy most of August with the State Fair demonstrations. We coordinated 3 weeks and 14 days of demonstrations. The Fair was closed on the 2 Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The Fair's stretching to 3 weekends makes it hard on our volunteer demonstrators. This was my last year as the coordinator, but I have some good replacements in training, and we are hopeful that we can continue. We have a wonderful group of volunteer demonstrators, some of whom have been doing demonstrations for 20 to 25 years! And I will remind you that FCE has been doing demonstrations under our first name of Home Demonstration Clubs since the first Fair in 1936.

We along with CES also sponsor the Homemade Pie Contest. The category this year was nuts, that is the filling must include nuts. We were concerned that this category might limit the number of entries. Just the opposite happened as we had 16 Nutty Pies entered! It was a real workout for our judges tasting 16 pies. The results are on the state Fair website. The first prize winner

was a 6-year-old girl with a pecan caramel pie.

And finally Julie Cascio is the Canning Exhibit supervisor, and some of our FCE members helped Julie with taking in and judging entries.

Most of our clubs do not meet in the summer except for their picnics. Our July council/district meeting is always hosted by our Talkeetna club. We met at the Upper Susitna Community and Senior Center, and the Talkeetna members provided a delightful lunch.

Jill Martinson showed an advance copy of the Mat-Su's new Raise-a-Reader® book, *Mama Bear the Reader and the Alaska Alphabet* which Jill wrote.. The next steps are to get estimates for the cost of printing, fundraising and applying for grants.

Northern District

Helen Bernstein, 17-Mile

President

September 26, 2024

We have been very busy again this year. And our ladies stepped up to the challenge. We have been trying new things and building on what we were already doing. The attendance has been up, and we added 3 new active members! Our members chose to work over the summer months. Very few ladies chose not to attend.

We have made 500+ Raise-a-Reader® kits. They have not yet been delivered because we are waiting

to receive "Catch'em in the Cradle" papers to add to the reading packages. However, at every work party, we are sewing burb bibs for the packets. I share them with new moms when I see them out in public!

Again this year we cut and made 85 Christmas stockings for North Pole Rotary who will fill and distribute them locally. We also crocheted 85 hats for Rotary to distribute. They continue to reach a lot of kids in our community.

We made and sent 20 Christmas stockings to the Children's Hospital in Seattle. They loved them so much we doubled that order this year.

We have been working diligently to make, sew, paint, etc. items to sell at our bazaars coming up (starting) just after conference.

To date 17 Mile Homemakers FCE has completed 1,977 non-FCE volunteer hours and 4,625 FCE hours. Going into the new year, I anticipate going way over the hours our members completed last year.

**Retreat 2025 Sponsored by
Homer FCE**
Rosie Burgess

Come to the County Fair! You heard right, the 2025 Retreat will feature an old-fashioned County Fair theme. We'll have games of chance with prizes, Fair food and demonstrations.



Friday night we will have a Chili Cook Off. We are asking for volunteers to bring a pot of their favorite chili. The chili will be judged and prizes will be given; then of course we'll eat it. A Teddy Bear Picnic will replace our usual Tea Party at noon on Saturday. We are asking for 5-6 participants to sign up and demonstrate how to do a project, craft, or food item, much like the Mat-Su does at the Alaska State Fair. I am going to demonstrate cupcake decorating and you'll all be able to create your own decorated cupcake. The Chinese auction will also be held.

We are planning a fun-filled weekend and hope you can join us. Invite a friend!

The Quality Inn in Kenai will be the place. March 28,29 and 30, 2025 will be the dates.

Alaska Association for Family and Community Education

Annual Meeting

Camp Maranatha, Big Lake, Alaska

September 26, 2024

Minutes

Credentialing took place from 9-9:30 a.m. with Secretary TJ Barnes.

Call to order: 9:30 a.m. by President Mabel Quilliam

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Mabel Quilliam read the **Alaska Homemakers Creed**.

Roll Call:

Officers: President Mabel Quilliam; Vice President Sue Selk; Secretary TJ Barnes; Treasurer Jill Martinson; Historian, Mary Hensel

Voting members: Sharon Taylor, Kathy Huston, Sharon Corbett, Anita Harry, Stephanie Harry, Elaine Link, Dianne Doody, Beatrice Combs, Helen Bernstein, Debra Mestas, Brenda Sadler, Rieta Walker, Julie Cascio, Barbara Walters, Addie Lazarus, Bonnie Dinkel, Barbara Thomas, Loretta Braden, Jaleyne Gesin, Marleyne Hunter, Linn Vander Molen, Sue Reed and Bonnie Shurtleff.

Per Credentialing, 28 members are present to vote; the quorum is 15.

Guests: Patty Hert and Merle Carlson

First Time Attendees: Barbara Walters, Linn Vander Molen and Sharon Corbett.

Parliamentarian: Anita Harry was asked by President Mabel Quilliam and she accepted.

Approval of the Agenda: Three items were added. Elaine Link motioned to accept the agenda and Kathy Huston seconded; motion passed.

Approval of the minutes: Kathy Huston motioned to accept the minutes as printed in *FaCEs*, Julie Cascio seconded; motion passed.

Reports:

Officer Reports:

President Mabel Quilliam: Read report, provided a copy to the Secretary and the report will be available in the next issue of *FaCEs*.

Vice President Sue Selk: Read report, agreed to provide the Secretary with a copy so the report can be printed in the next issue of *FaCEs*.

Secretary TJ Barnes: Reported the minutes recorded in *FaCEs* are the report and the minutes of this meeting will be available in the next issue of *FaCEs*.

Treasurer Jill Martinson: Provided a screen overview for members to follow along, read the report and will e-mail report to the Secretary and *FaCEs* editor. President Mabel Quilliam asked for objections. Seeing none, the report was accepted.

Historian Mary Hensel: Read report, provided a copy to the Secretary and the report will be available in the next issue of *FaCEs*.

CES Update-Julie Cascio: Gave report, provided report to Secretary via e-mail and to *FaCEs* Editor Rieta Walker for publication.

District President's Reports:

Anchorage-Report made by Loretta Braden on behalf of Nancy Heckart which did not include a written copy for the Secretary. Report comprised of the following: about 30 blankets have been made so far for Hope Center, Fur Rondy pins were sold as a fund raiser, and members helped each other other during this past year, such as when Elaine Link and her husband helped Loretta protect her garden from the moose.

Homer-Rosie Burgess: Printed report provided to Secretary and read by Anita Harry with contributions from Rieta Walker.

Mat-Su-Barbara Thomas: Read report and provided a copy to the Secretary. Jill Martinson contributed an update to the Raise-A-Reader® campaign by showing an example of the book, *Momma Bear the Reader and the Alaska Alphabet*, which has been formatted, and fundraising is ongoing to pay for publication. Several members had ideas for fundraising.

Northern-Helen Bernstein: Read report and e-mailed report to Rieta Walker who sent the report to the Secretary.

Standing Committee Reports:

FaCEs-Editor Rieta Walker: Read report and provided a copy to the Secretary. Send all articles for this conference to Rieta by October 10.

Finance & Budget-For Nancy Heckart, Jill Martinson: A committee was formed with one person from each district for the proposal of a budget for 2025. Volunteers included Jill Martinson for Nancy Heckart, Barbara Thomas, Helen Bernstein, Loretta Braden, and Rieta Walker.

Membership-Barbara Thomas: Report read and copy provided to secretary and *FaCEs* editor for publication. Jill added that everyone should be sure to please include their Zip+4 so that one person is not required to look up over 90 extra zip codes.

A ten minute break was called at 11 a.m.

Meeting was resumed at 11:21 a.m.

Nominating Committee Report-Bonnie Shurtleff: No one further has volunteered for any open Alaska FCE officer position and as those currently serving are also still active members in good standing and are eligible for re-election, at the appropriate time, the President will call for elections from the floor.

Scholarship-for Julie Cascio: Discussion included the James W. Matthews Extension Volunteer Leadership Development Fund Scholarship recipients for this year which included Mabel Quilliam, Bonnie Shurtleff, Sharon Taylor and Kathy Huston. Rieta pointed out that there is a copy of the application in the member handbook and all members are welcome to submit applications to the fund by the appropriate deadlines.

Special Committees:

Heart of FCE-Kathy Huston: Three nominations were presented and the winner chosen by an impartial representative was Sandy Garity of Homer.

Spirit of Alaska Women books-For Nancy Heckart, Rieta Walker: Information on the contents of the book was discussed, and, as the sales of the book are a fundraiser, "Sell, Sell, Sell!" is the take away message.

Benny Benson Alaska's Flag-Nancy Heckart provided a copy of the report and Loretta Braden read it. Our signed copy of the Benny Benson Alaska flag has a new home at AK Child & Family in Anchorage. The flag was presented on July 9, 2024, Alaska Flag Day.

Ivory Gavel-Rieta Walker: Rieta read her report discussing her efforts as a committee of one to find a safe home for the precious ivory gavel. She shared details regarding the provenance of its creation and history as well as the likely organizations for a permanent home for the gavel. After discussion, it was moved by Rieta Walker that the Alaska Association for Family & Community Education donate our ivory gavel to Alaska Mining Hall of Fame Foundation. This motion was seconded by Dianne Doody. Some discussion included a proposed alternative recipient of the Pioneers of Alaska Museum by Marleyne Hunter. All in favor, none opposed and the motion passed.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:59 a.m. and will resume at 1:00 p.m. as stated in the Conference Schedule.

Meeting resumed at 1:34 p.m.

We began the final portion of the meeting by **acknowledging the past State Presidents**, asking those present to stand for recognition. They were Bonnie Dinkel, Anita Harry, Barbara Thomas, Dianne Doody, and Sharon Taylor.

Conference 2025 Discussion-

"Should changes be made to the current division of conference delegated tasks?" is the question proposed. Jill Martinson suggested we switch the partnering districts to better reflect the number of members being represented. Currently, the two largest districts are paired together and if not changed, the two districts with the fewest active members would be responsible for the state conference in 2025. It is proposed that Mat-Su District be paired up with Anchorage District and Northern District be paired up with Homer District with the latter being responsible for next year's conference. There was much debate. It was suggested by Anita Harry on behalf of Rosie Burgess that Homer District would be hard pressed to find a place for conference down south and doesn't feel as though they could successfully plan next year's conference. Rieta Walker suggested following the National FCE conference model of the state officers forming a steering committee to organize state conference. Helen Bernstein suggested a steering committee, not necessarily comprising just state officers, be responsible for the next conference to get everyone in all the districts to contribute. It was suggested that each district discuss this matter further with their clubs and make a decision on how to organize the state conference in 2025 by the next state board meeting which is scheduled via zoom at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, October 23, 2024. Barbara Thomas pointed out that we needed to make a decision on the location before the end of conference. Mabel Quilliam suggested we ask Camp Maranatha to look at the schedule for next year and have the conference remain in this location.

Kathy Huston moved to seek Camp Maranatha as the location for next year and that the district presidents bring a club consensus regarding the idea of forming a conference steering committee to the next state board meeting. This was seconded by Brenda Sadler. There was further discussion and the motion passed by a majority vote.

President Mabel Quilliam will ask John Miller if Camp Maranatha would be able to schedule us for next year, and she will try to get the answer before we close the conference. After conferring with Julie Cascio, it has been determined that any date in September that is agreeable to the Camp should be agreeable to the CES Agents.

New Business:

Changes to Alaska FCE Member Handbook 2024-Mabel Quilliam: There have been some requested changes and those issues will need to be addressed before a final draft can be proposed. Rieta Walker pointed out that the changes adopted to Standing Rule #4 from the Spring Board Meeting needs to be included in the revision of the handbook.

Election of Officers - Vice President, Sue Selk:

Nominations from the floor for President were called for three times. Hearing none, a vote was called to accept Mabel Quilliam for President. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Nominations from the floor for Secretary were called for three times. Hearing none, a vote was called to accept TJ Barnes for Secretary. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Nominations from the floor for Treasurer were called for three times. Hearing none, a vote was called for to accept Jill Martinson as Treasurer. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Next year, elections for Vice President and Historian will be held. Clubs are encouraged to appeal for candidates.

Correspondence & Announcements:

Fall Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 10 a.m. Alaska time via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

TammyJean Barnes, Secretary



Photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter

Alaska FCE Treasurer's Report

September 24, 2024

Jill Martinson, Alaska FCE Treasurer

Bank balance as of April 24, 2023		\$10518.14
Income:	Membership	\$45.00
	Council State dues	50.00
	Books	<u>+190.00</u>
	Total income	\$285.00
Balance plus Income		\$10803.14
Expenses:	NAFCE	\$35.0
Membership		
	Conference development fund	500.00
	Heart of FCE	50.00
	Conference Scholarships	800.00
	National Conference	665.74
	State Conference Officer Grants	2316.00
	Total expenses	<u>\$4366.74</u>
Final Balance		\$6436.40
Dedicated Funds		
	State Scholarship fund	\$700.00
	National Delegate Fund	\$2834.26
	State Conference Development Fund	<u>+\$1000.00</u>
	Total Dedicated funds	\$4534.26
Working budget		\$1902.14

Alaska FCE 2025 Budget
 accepted at the annual business meeting
 September 26, 2024

Beginning balance	\$8,000.00
 Income	
State Membership Dues	\$ 800.00
District Dues	\$ 200.00
Ways & Means	\$ 500.00
Book Sales	
Alaska FCE needs to receive \$5 for each <i>Spirit of Alaska Women</i> book sold. Club or District may keep anything above that amount. Send or turn money into State Treasurer.	\$ 250.00
Donations	<u>0</u>
2025 Income	<u>\$1,750.00</u>
 Total Income	 \$9,750.00
 Dedicated Funds	
National Delegate Fund	\$3,500.00
Scholarship Fund (First Timers/Districts)	\$1,000.00
State Conference Development Fund (to be determined after state conf. report)	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
Total Dedicated Funds (Subtract from income)	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
 Total Income Available	 <u>\$3,750.00</u>
 Expenses	
Officer expenses	\$ 50.00
<i>FaCEs</i>	\$ 300.00
Officer + Editor Grants (6 people)	\$1,200.00
Programs & Educacional Material	\$ 50.00
Donation to NAFCE Service Project	\$ 50.00
National Conf. Ad for Heart of FCE	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,050.00
 Total Expenses	 \$3,750.00
 Total Income - total Expenses	 0

Budget Committee: Nancy Heckart, Finance & Budget Chair absent but did prep work. Treasurer Jill Martinson, Anchorage - Loretta Bradon, Homer - Rieta Walker, Mat-Su - Barbara Thomas, Northern - Helen Bernstein