

\*\*\*\*\*

# Your FCE Speaks

Summer 2023

\*\*\*\*\*

Summer!

Heat, humidity, bugs, picnics, family get-to-gathers, vacations and more heat. We have it every year but somehow it seems to come around quicker! And as we get older, we either find it bothers us more or we just try to get through it and keep moving on with our lives.

And this year we are hearing more about all the weather problems around the world as we aren't the only ones having to deal with what Mother Nature is handing us. Floods, fires and sand blowing in from the Sahara as well as the smoke from fires thousands of miles away! Plus, the tornadoes and hail storms that are causing extensive damage.

I don't mean to make you depressed. I am hoping this will help you to be more thankful for all the Blessings you have. Family, friends, a house to call home and all the comforts these things bring to you every day.

Everyone has problems of one kind or another and as we age, things seem to change more often than we would like. By the same token, we still have many things that we keep looking forward to seeing or doing.

Let's remember to be Thankful and Helpful. There are many ways to do things for others without making it a major task. Just being there for someone can be a "Big thing" in how it makes them feel or the activities they need to do.

\*\*\*\*\*

It's summer but fall is sneaking up quickly! And that means lots of County Fairs, the State Fair and getting Back to School. It also means that those District Meetings and National FCE Conference are a distant memory and State Annual Conference is well into the planning stages.

## District Meeting reports

Central District Director Pam Bauer held her meeting in Ainsworth on Saturday, February 25, with “Recharge and Recycle” as the theme.

Ten FCE members learned the “Facts and Fiction about Rabies, heard about the upcoming state and national FCE news from State President Cathy. State FCE Vice-President Ginger encouraged members to “get involved” in FCE by volunteering to serve as a district director or Secretary of the Nebraska FCE.

They also explored several recycling projects including Makin Fabric Yo-Yos and ways to use denim including how to make denim coasters (by Beth Chase), using leftover fabric including old clothes to make quilts (by Connie Larrington) and ideas for projects using cardboard and toilet paper rolls (by Audrey Wilson).

We “recharged” as Denny Bauer shared his 40+ years of fun in his job as a UNL Extension Educator.

The day concluded with Brownie Sundaes and door prizes.

East District Director Jane Mehaffey was host to 12 FCE members when they met at the North Bend library on March 15. Speakers were Debra Willcox, a dietitian from the hospital, and Amy Reznicek from the library. The group had many questions for both speakers and they enjoyed and got a lot of good information that they could use in their communities as well.

The craft project done during the afternoon was alcohol painting on glass.

Everyone enjoyed a Great Time.

Unfortunately, Margie Surber had to cancel her West District meeting due to “winter weather”. She had a good day planned but it just wasn’t safe to be on the roads for anyone that had planned to attend.

## National Conference

Connie Larrington and Nebraska FCE President Cathy McKown attended the National FCE Conference in Erlanger, Kentucky on August 3 through 6.

There were 38 FCE members attending from 10 states or areas with 10 of those attendees being “First Timers”, all from Tennessee.

Two FCL lessons were presented as well as 2 Hearth Fire Series lessons. The Business meeting was held and 4 offices were filled by Acclimation as there was only one person up for election to office in each position.

**Our National FCE President, Judy Fullmer, stated that the National FCE will not be dissolving.** Her statement was “since the individual states joined National FCE individually, that would be the way they would end their membership, state by state, if they decide to no longer belong to Family and Community Education”. An FCL workshop on “Building Bridges” was done by all attendees to help work on deciding what the Emphasis of FCE will be for the next 3 years. The major undertaking will be on “Food Insecurity, Food Deserts and Food Waste” with understanding that National FCE had proposed a Resolution to the ACWW Triennial which was approved and will be worked on at the International level. (By being a member of the Nebraska FCE and the National FCE we are also members of ACWW. That also is why we hear about and do lessons and projects for ACWW).

There will be more information about the National FCE Conference at our State FCE Conference.

### Audit of Treasury Books

At the 2022 Annual Conference Business meeting, questions were asked about when and how we are doing an Audit of our treasury.

Our Treasurer, Sue Saathoff, has done some looking into information and has this to report.

“An audit of the State financial records is required. Because of the high cost to have an outside CPA firm perform this function and our current fund balance being low, research was done to see how other non-profit organizations meet this requirement. The board determined the best approach to meet our requirements

was to form and “Internal Audit Committee” whose function will be to ensure accuracy in the financial records and reporting – they review records, verify agreement with bank records, and report to the FCE State Board. This 2 to 3 member committee would only meet once per year after year end reports are produced.”

More information will be provided at the FCE State Conference. If you would be interested in serving or know of another member who would be a good candidate, Please let Treasurer Sue Saathoff know. Her phone is 402-269-5748.

### Election of Officers

We elect our FCE State Officers at our Annual Conference and Business Meeting each year. Our Vice President and Chair of the Nominations Committee, Ginger Turner says: “ Please be thinking about taking an office on the Nebraska FCE State Board. We are looking for a Secretary, Vice President and Central District Director. I will be reaching out to get some nominations.”

### Other things that may be brought up during the Annual Business meeting of the Nebraska FCE

Several items were discussed by the Nebraska FCE State Board when they met in early July. Some of these things have been looked at before but we feel it is time to look at them again. Because of the nature of the possible changes having an effect on all members of the Nebraska FCE, it is something that needs to be addressed by as many of our members as possible. Therefore, we are encouraging everyone to attend the 2023 Nebraska FCE State Conference, especially the Business Meeting on Friday, September 29.

Subjects would include:

Continued membership in National FCE

Financial needs of the State organization

Possible reduction of FCE Districts which would also include the reduction of District Directors

Any other business as brought forward by members.

Due to these items concerning all FCE members, we will open the floor to all to express their thoughts. Unfortunately, because of Constitution and By-Laws rules, only the seated Delegates will be able to vote on the questions after discussion.

If you have thoughts or concerns about these items and will not be able to attend Conference, we welcome your comments by contacting any of the State Officers or your Delegate.

### 2023 Nebraska Annual Conference and Business Meeting

The dates of our 2023 State Conference and Business Meeting are September 28, 29 and 30. We will be holding Conference at the Petrified Wood Gallery in Ogallala. Please be aware of the fact that Ogallala is in the Mountain Time Zone so you will have to allow for the time difference if you live in the Central Time Zone.

If you are not able to attend the entire Conference, we have broken down the cost per day. Otherwise, we have included all cost in the Registration Fee for attending all the activities of Conference. (except the motel cost, of course). The motel information is also included here.

### Schedule of Activities for Nebraska FCE Annual Conference and Business Meeting

**“Come to Ogallala for a Boot Scootin Good Time!”**

Plus Prizes and Surprises! Be prepared for anything!!!

The Annual Conference Committee has been very busy making plans for our FCE members to enjoy when they attend Conference. And since we will be a western type area, you are invited to wear your Western Attire.

Registration and delivery of Heritage Skills Contest entries, Baskets and Silent Auction items will begin at 3:00 PM (again remember Mountain Time Zone) at the Petrified Wood Gallery. The Gallery is located on the south side of Highway 30 at 418 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Ogallala. Access is at the second set of doors along the east side of the building. It is only a few blocks from the motel and the I-80 interchange.

Thursday evening will be the opening of our Conference with our evening meal and information about the Petrified Wood Gallery. One of the volunteers will tell us about the Gallery and we will be able to tour the facility.

Friday morning has us meeting at 8:45 (Delegates in their seats) so that we can begin our Annual Business Meeting promptly at 9:00 AM. (Remember, Mountain Time Zone) After the business meeting, there will be more details presented about workings of National FCE.

After lunch, we will have our Heritage Skills workshop. The Heritage Skills committee, Patricia Fear and Ginger Turner, will help us look at a project that will be a Heritage Skill category in 2024. Following a short break, Pam Bauer and Margie Surber will help us look at accessing the National FCE website and where and how to find information presented on the computer. There are many lessons and needed forms available to all of us when we know where to look and how to get them.

Friday evening will be our Banquet. There should be plenty of time after the afternoon lesson for us to get ready for the evening. Let's dress up for the Banquet! It's not formal but it would be nice to see everyone in their "Sunday Best". The committee has some entertainment planned for us to enjoy before we recognize "Years of Membership", the "Heart of FCE" winner, Youth contest winners and have "Installation of Officer". Voting for Heritage Skills and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Environmental Poster will close at 9:00 PM or as soon as possible after the evening events are over.

Saturday morning will open with the Memorial Service at 9:00 AM. (Memorial information for members that have passed since the 2022 Annual Conference is to be sent to Sue Saathoff, 14505 Panama Road, Adams, Ne. 68301 )

After the Memorial Service, Jane Mehaffey and Sue Saathoff will present the FCL Lesson, "Music Magic!" This was a fun lesson when it was presented at National Conference. It's sure to get you involved! This is to be followed by a musical presentation by youth from the area.

The final lesson will be "What Would I (You) Do?". Final details are being worked out for this lesson but it will be something that everyone should know

about. After lunch we will have the final Contests results and finish distributing Baskets and the Silent Auction items before it is “Time to Head Home”.

Anyone that would be elected to office will need to plan on staying around for a State Board meeting to get information and materials from the out-going officers and to help schedule for the next State Board meeting.

### And Motel information for your stay at Annual Conference

A block of rooms has been reserved for our FCE members while attending the State Conference. We are using the AmericInn located at 501 Stagecoach Trail. To get to the motel, take the first right turn available just north of the Interstate interchange and follow the road until the AmericInn is on your left. Parking is available in the back of the motel with an elevator available just inside the back entrance. You may also enter through the front entrance. A full breakfast is included with your stay. For those of you that have electric vehicles, there are several charging stations at the back of the parking lot. The cost for a 2 Queen bed room is \$92.13 per night plus taxes. Just call the AmericInn at 308-284-8955 to **make your reservation by September 15** and let them know that you are coming to Ogallala for the Nebraska FCE State Conference.

### Just some last-minute notes

Don't forget to bring your Heritage Skills items. We received entries for approximately 30 different items this year. And something in all of the categories.

And, of course, we will do the Baskets again. This is something that everyone looks forward to. It's always fun to see what ideas our members come up with.

We will once again have a Silent Auction. Just bring an item, either new or gently used, that others can “bid” on. The proceeds would then go through the National FCE to ACWW for the “Food Insecurity” programs being put in place.

### Now it's time to get that Registration Form

Print it off – fill it out – include your check – drop it in the mail by September 15! Send it to Tammie Sanford, 2518 Rose Court, North Platte, Ne. 69101

Registration Form for 2023

Nebraska Association for Family and Community Education

Annual Conference and Business Meeting

September 28, 29, and 30

Petrified Wood Gallery – Ogallala, Nebraska

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Full Conference Registration includes:

Meals Thursday evening, Friday Noon and evening and Saturday Noon

Plus all craft materials and Lesson materials for the Conference \$125.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday only – includes:

Evening meal and entertainment \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Friday only – includes:

Annual Business meeting, 2 meals, craft and lessons

Membership recognition and contest winners, Evening entertainment

And Installation of Officers \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday only – includes:

Memorial Service, 2 lessons, musical entertainment and the

Noon meal \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark your selection and send your Registration form with payment to:

Tammie Sanford, 2518 Rose Court, North Platte, Nebraska, 69101

**Registration Deadline: September 15**



