

FaCEs

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Our History

Barbara Thomas
Mat-Su District President



I have discovered that we have in Mat-Su District three copies of the book *The Official History of Extension Homemakers 1936 - 1990*. This is the book I used in my session on our history at the conference. Our District has two, and I have one. I mentioned that each District should have a copy. Hopefully you have found a copy. If not, and you are interested in having one, we would be willing to give you one. We have only one extra copy so we would like to give it to a District or club that is truly interested in this early history.

Highlights from the Fall Issue of *FCE Today*

Barbara Thomas
Membership Chair



The Fall issue of *FCE Today* was sent to all FCE members who National FCE (NAFCE) has a good email address for. Many of you tell me you don't always download it or print news from NAFCE so I want to share some highlights and good news with you.

Membership Dues We should expect no increase in the National portion of our membership dues for a while. The three years of increases in National dues were needed to help with the cost of our liability insurance. Having liability insurance saves us on the cost of camps where we have our conferences. It also covers us at events and activities such as the State Fair Demonstrations. National has decided to close the physical location for our headquarters. There will be savings from doing this, and the biggest savings will be to the

insurance premiums. Liability insurance is part of the cost of insuring the Headquarters. Over half of the total premiums paid by National FCE is for insuring the headquarters.

Judy Jones will continue to be the Headquarters Secretary, and in the interim she will work from home. The contact information for National remains the same: Email: nafcehq@fuse.net Phone: 859-525-6401 Mail: 73 Cavalier Blvd Suite #106, Florence KY 41042.

With the physical building being vacated the items including the *Hearth Fire Series* will be moved to an indoor climate controlled area. The printed *Hearth Fire Series* are available at \$3 for 10 mix or match. The new *Hearth Fires* are no longer printed and Mabel has downloaded them and sent them to everyone.

While I am at it, I want to put in a plug for Judy Jones our Headquarters Secretary. She is a wealth of knowledge and is the best person to contact with questions. But first check the website: www.nafce.org.



ACWW Triennial

Barbara Thomas

I want to share with you the information regarding ACWW,

Associated Country Women of the World, 2026 Triennial. It will be in Ottawa, Canada, April 26 through May 1, 2026. Having the Triennial on our continent makes it easier for FCE members to attend. You may recall the 2023 Triennial was in Malaysia.

National FCE is a member society of ACWW which makes us members. You can also join ACWW as an individual member, which is what I have done. I often get the Canadian newsletter as they think I belong to Canada. Registration will open in April 2025 and information on fees and registration will be published early in 2025. The theme is using the Algonquin meaning of the word Ottawa which is "to trade", which for ACWW is trading information, knowledge, compassion and experience.

I am considering going to this Triennial as this one is the closest in many years. Also National FCE is doing more with ACWW, such as using many of their programs such as Food Security. In 2025, FCE will be the host society for a combined meeting with ACWW US Societies July 21 through 24, 2025. It will be at the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport Hotel in Erlanger, KY. We will have our National Conference during that time. The ACWW World President Magdie de Kock will also be attending.

**2024 Alaska FCE Annual
Conference**
Rieta Walker



When I registered for the Conference, I said that I'd take anyone for a roommate. My good friend, Loretta Braden, did the same, and we wound up together.

We enjoyed visiting with each other. In fact we got to talking so much that we were late to the banquet. Before the others missed us and sent out a search party, we made our way to the dining hall through a downpour of rain and even some hail. Alaska FCE members are tough! And meeting FCE friends is one of the highlights of each conference.

Julie Cascio, Mabel Quilliam, Sue Selk, Julie Cascio, Mabel Quilliam, Sue Selk, Jill Martinson, TJ Barnes, Mary Hensel, courtesy photo

At the banquet re-elected and continuing officers were installed by Julie Cascio, CES Home, Health and Family



Development Agent. Those who will begin new terms on January 1, 2025, are President Mabel Quilliam, Treasurer Jill Martinson, and Historian Mary Hensel. The continuing officers are Vice President Sue Selk and Secretary TJ Barnes.

At Get Acquainted Night, it was amazing how each fortune cookie saying seemed to fit the person who drew it. It went quickly with everyone having a chance to tell a bit about themselves.

Homer FCE thanks all for enjoying Fun Night; at least you laughed! And everyone got a "medal" thanks to Rosie Burgess who made them all; she also designed and made most of the games.



Jayleyne Gesin shows off her FCE Olympics medal, photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter

I liked having the 4 general sessions. My favorite was Barbara Thomas presentation, "Our Roots & Our Beginnings".



Barbara Thomas leads a general session, photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter

Joan Tovsen put years of work and research into learning things that she shared in "Alaska Wild Harvest". I was pleased to see that she displayed a book by a Homer author.

Be aware of vampires that draw electricity while not in active use. That's just one of the tips from "Home Energy Efficiency".

Leif Albertson would not approve my old water catchment system, but in more than 30 years no one ever got sick from drinking that water, and I got many compliments on what good coffee I made (with that un-chlorinated water). The class was "Water: The Forgotten Nutrient".

I didn't finish my "Simple Slippers". This was no one's fault but my own. Fortunately Kathy Huston put the link to the video tutorial on my computer.



TJ Barnes demonstrating faux Devonshire cream, photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter

I didn't take TJ's class, "Cream Scones & Faux Devonshire Cream", but I got the recipes. I made them for a gathering, but then I realized I was a week early. Alas! So I went to a friend's so we could laugh or cry together. She laughed. Another friend was there with her two girls so we all sat around eating scones with faux Devonshire cream and raspberry jam. I had some left to bring home.

Past president, Sharon Taylor, showed photos of "Kupreankof Island, My New Home", told us how she and her husband came to live there, and how much she likes it. These were good stories. The locale and situation are not quite what I imagined when she told us that they were moving off-grid.



Sharon Taylor wearing her Norwegian flag (Petersburg) hat tells about living off-grid, photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter



Jaleyne Gesin, Dianne Doody, Bonnie Shurtleff, & Addie Lazarus show off their Tye Dye shirts. photo courtesy of Marleyne Hunter

Ways & Means was conducted fairly and efficiently. Each item and its ticket container had matching numbers. I got lace weight red yarn, just right for knitting a mini shawl that I'd been hoping to make and am now spending challenging and relaxing time doing. I also got 4 *The Ladies Number One Detective Agency* series books; I haven't read them yet as I've been reading "assigned" book club selections.

Our Second treasure

Rieta Walker

Our second treasure, a mammoth ivory gavel craved by Al Retzlof especially for our organization and presented at the 1955 annual meeting, has a new home. Brenda Sadler and Helen Bernstein made the presentation of the gavel and its documentation at the October 30 meeting of the Alaska Mining Hall of Fame Foundation in Fairbanks. Thomas Bundtzen, president of the Foundation, accepted the treasure. It is to be displayed at the organization's museum.



Brenda Sadler, Tom Bundtzen, Helen Bernstein, courtesy photo



CES UPDATE

Rieta Walker

2025 Alaska FCE Annual Conference

Rieta Walker

This will be the 75th annual conference. 75th anniversaries are often called diamond anniversaries or diamond jubilees.

If you have an idea for a theme/slogan and/or a logo, please send it/them to me rietaw@alaska.net and/or to President Mabel Quilliam mmquilliam@yahoo.com by December 1.

The dates for the 2025 Conference are September 22-26 and the site is Camp Maranatha.

Julie's Retirement

Barbara Thomas

There is going to be a Retirement Celebration and Potluck honoring Julie on November 19 at the CES office. If those of you out of town would like to send a card, you can mail it to Melissa Clampitt at the Cooperative Extension Center, 1509 S Georgeson Dr, Palmer, AK 99654.



Julie Cascio, Home, Health and Family Development Agent retired on October 30, 2024. This came as a surprise to many FCE members. Julie has been so supportive of FCE statewide during her tenure in the Mat-Su/Copper River District.

Julie's first position with Alaska CES was in the Kenai Peninsula District where she took a temporary position as Home Economist. During that time she met Paul Cascio and resigned to marry him!

Alaska FCE is missing Julie. We wish her well.

Alaska Association for Family and Community Education
State Board Meeting
via Zoom
October 23, 2024
Minutes

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Alaska Homemaker's Creed was read by President Mabel Quilliam.

Roll Call: Officers present are: President Mabel Quilliam; Secretary TJ Barnes- Standing Committee Chairperson of Membership and Mat-Su District President Barbara Thomas; District Presidents-Rosie Burgess, Homer; Helen Bernstein, Northern; Voting Representatives for the Districts: Brenda Sadler- Northern, Anita Harry - Homer, Kathy Huston and Bonnie Shurtleff - Mat-Su. Also present are CES Agent Julie Cascio and guests included Linn Vander Molen, Marleyne Hunter, Diane Doody, Barb Thoma, Ruthie Sever, Sharon Corbett, Stephanie Harry, Marcia Lowe. (Although Mary Hensel did briefly enter the Zoom call, there was no video nor audio and thus no participation.) There was no representation for Anchorage District.

Welcome to 2025-26 Officers: Mabel Quilliam, Re-elected President; TJ Barnes, Re-elected Secretary; and Jill Martinson, Re-elected Treasurer.

Approval of the Agenda: Barbara Thomas moved to suspend the agenda to focus on discussing the conference, the spring retreat and to give information regarding membership/ National FCE news. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Shurtleff. The agenda was suspended.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in *FaCEs*.

The Spring Retreat will take place in Kenai on March 28-30, 2025, and the theme is County Fair. Be sure to see the full article in the October 2024 issue of *FaCEs* for further details.

Barbara Thomas reported the latest issue of *FCE Today* had an article with information about NAFCE dues not being expected to rise as the decision to close the headquarters office and have the National Secretary work from home would lessen our expenses. The biggest savings will be to our liability insurance premium as more than half of the premium would be eliminated. The *Hearth Fire Series* hardcopies will be placed in climate controlled storage.

Hearth Fire Series copies are available at \$3.00 for ten issues.

Oregon FCE President Scott Teeple has offered to share our Alaska FCE **Membership form** online so anyone outside of Alaska who would like to be a member can submit a membership form. Applicants would belong to Greater Alaska FCE. Their other option is to be a member at-large.

Conference 2025 discussion was opened by Mabel Quilliam who reiterated the decision at the 2024 Alaska FCE Annual Conference was to retain Camp Maranatha as the location; the dates will be September 22-26, 2025. Individual clubs were supposed to have discussed how to organize next year's conference and bring a consensus of their opinions to report at this meeting.

Rosie Burgess raised the option of following the Oregon model which Scott Teeples sent to Rieta Walker after seeing the October issue of *FaCEs*. Basically, they made a list of all the duties needed to produce the conference and then a Conference Steering Committee is selected to assist the State Board in accomplishing the tasks.

Alaska FCE had a binder which Liz Rettke had put together of the duties but no one present today knows exactly where the binder is currently. It was suggested that perhaps Nancy Heckart may have it, and Mabel said she would ask her. Julie Cascio had supplied us with an extensive list for the conference in 2024 and it was suggested that we use it if we cannot locate the binder.

Ultimately, Rosie Burgess moved to appoint a Steering Committee formed of the Alaska FCE State Board and at least one representative from each District. The motion was seconded by Anita Harry. There was more discussion. Bonnie Shurtleff suggested each District President and at least one representative serve on the steering committee. As time to conclude the meeting drew near, Bonnie Shurtleff called for a vote. Then Mabel asked for all in favor and the motion passed by majority.

The Steering Committee for State Conference will be comprised of the State FCE Board and at least one member of each district. Currently, for Homer District the volunteers are Rosie Burgess, Anita Harry and Rieta Walker; for Northern District the volunteers are Helen Bernstein and Brenda Sadler; for Mat-Su District Bonnie Shurtleff.

The first meeting of the **Steering Committee** for the 2025 Alaska FCE Annual Conference will be at 11a.m. on November 4, 2024, via Zoom which will be organized by Melissa Clampitt as Julie Cascio is retiring next Wednesday. Mabel thanked her for all she has done to make our involvement in FCE richer during her career. We wish you a happy retirement beloved friend!

November 5, 2024, is the deadline for submissions to the next issue of *FaCEs*.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

TammyJean Barnes, Secretary