Hilary Zubritzy’s Reflections

Hilary Zubritzky, 50 year member of the Pennsylvania Home Economics/Family Consumer Sciences Association is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Home Economics Education. Following graduation she received a teaching position at the Montour School District in Pittsburgh. She taught Home Economics there for 35 years. Following retirement she became an adjunct professor at the Community College of Beaver County for several years. Currently she continues to teach at the Community College of Allegheny County through an outreach program in the Department of Aging teaching seniors life skills.

Hilary is an active alumnus at Carnegie Mellon. She currently serves as the Scholarship Chair of the Pittsburgh Alumni Association, awarding scholarships to outstanding juniors at the CMU. Previously she served as president of the women’s alumni association of Pittsburgh and still serves on the board of Pittsburgh Alumni. She also recruits students for CMU. Hilary has also served several terms on the Alumni Association Executive Board at Carnegie Mellon. In 1993 she received the Outstanding Alumnus Award at CMU for service to the university.

At PAFCS, Hilary served as President of the association for two terms. She also was chair of the Southwest District as well as served on several annual meetings over the years. She is an active member of the Allegheny County Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, where she also served in many leadership roles.

Home Economics is very important to me, at CMU my professor (Dr. Gladys Spencer) told us in this field you will have two professions- first, a home economist and second, as a teacher and that I found very important. She also instilled in me the need for being professional and joining my professional organization. I joined AHEA immediately (1970) and attended my first annual meeting in Atlantic City in 1972 and attended Pennsylvania’s annual meetings nearly every year and many of the national meetings. I loved my career choice and that has never changed over 50 years. It is very difficult for me to see the value of my profession diminished in the past several years as it continues to be removed from school curriculums. It is the most important course a student could take to provide them skills to make them a viable member of society.

My career choice fifty years ago remains the same fifty years later. It was an honor to be able to serve PAFCS and it is an honor to receive this recognition for this important milestone. It is truly appreciated, and I thank the association.