



Colorado/Wyoming Affiliate News

Fall 2024

Published by the Colorado Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

*Colorado and Wyoming are Affiliates of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
Dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families since 1908*

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CAFCS President's Message

Jeanine Pope
CAFCS AFCS President

Hi everyone!

I hope at this time of the year you are enjoying memorable experiences with your family and friends. Here is an update on the latest issues of our Colorado Affiliate and what is happening at AAFCS. If you have any questions, comments or are interested in becoming more involved in CAFCS, please contact me!

CAFCS has been involved in an Advocacy Grant through AAFCS. We are collaborating

with Wyoming to accomplish various activities.

Part of our Advocacy efforts is connecting with industry partners. By doing this, I am linking their websites to the CAFCS website with the result of having a Colorado resources page which focuses on each FCS area. Our goal is it will be a helpful resource for FCS professionals. Also, if you know of partners we should reach out to, please let me know.

Another goal of our Advocacy grant is connecting with additional FCS teachers in our communities throughout Colorado who are not members of AAFCS/CAFCS. We need volunteers to connect with these teachers; ***we are asking you to volunteer to make that connection.*** The ultimate goal is to promote and publicize the activities and learning which happens in these FCS classrooms! Through this connection we want to obtain pictures and media releases which can be shared with ours and other social media platforms.

In addition, in combination with the Wyoming Affiliate, we are working to connect with state legislators and other stakeholders to further our input on issues related to Family and Consumer Sciences.

The new CTE Career Clusters Framework which encompasses all CTE areas can be found at <https://careertech.org/career-clusters/> It is meant to support states as they implement, manage, and oversee career and technical education (CTE) programs. At this point, Family and Consumer Sciences was not included as its own separate career cluster. AAFCS has responded to this on several occasions. The latest FCS response can be found by linking [here](#) (right click on this link, select Open Hyperlink) and you'll get a Blog on the AAFCS website. Many states, including Colorado, continue to use the framework which incorporates FCS as a career cluster.

In spite of this, AAFCS will continue to support states offering Family and Consumer Sciences courses by providing resources such as instructional guides, guidance documents, white papers, continuing education, pre-professional and professional assessments and certifications. AAFCS also maintains the Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge serves as the accreditation body for academic programs in higher education, and partners with industry to develop school to career pathways.

The Colorado affiliate is seeking members who are interested in being more involved with our state association by helping with Affiliate Committees and other leadership activities. Each member has skills and expertise which are valuable to our association. We meet 4-5 times during the year (most are virtual calls) to conduct business and to plan Annual Conference. Each member is a valuable asset. Contact me or Executive Director Luann Boyer (luann.boyer@colostate.edu) about how you can be involved.

If you completed the AAFCS Membership Survey recently, you can see the summary of

results later in this newsletter. Let us know if any of the suggestions would be helpful for our members and the organization.

Thanks.

Have a Happy Holiday season!

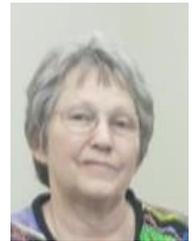
Jeanine Pope

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WAFCS President Message

Patty Johnson

Wyoming AFCS President



Ponderings from Wyoming

It's that time of year where traditions tug at our hearts and guide our to-do list. Traditions are beliefs and behaviors passed down within a group of people because of their special significance in our lives. They are a part of our history. They contribute a sense of belonging and bring people together. Traditions matter.

We just celebrated Thanksgiving and are now looking towards late December. Plans fill calendars listing cultural and religious activities which create lasting memories. Our family tradition was to spend Thanksgiving weekend traveling 400 miles to search the forest so we could cut Christmas trees and roping for three houses.

My husband's family never bought a "town tree". Often the tree is selected during summer; a "Charlie Brown tree" is usually the first choice. Decorating with berries, popcorn, and love made the trees sparkle. My children had small trees in their room and to be loved and redecorated daily. When I took the trees down in mid-March, I became the "mean Mom". The pile of dried needles on the floor weren't seen by my children; their hearts did

not allow the bare tree to be seen as lifeless. Memories filled their heart. Now they plan and work together to continue the tradition of bringing home a tree they cut themselves.

The planning for our Colorado/Wyoming Annual Conference in April is underway. The dates are April 24 and 25 on the University of Wyoming campus. Make your plans to come to Laramie. Registration information will be out soon. Make it a tradition in your professional life to join colleagues for professional learning and socializing. Invite a colleague to come with you. Let's keep this tradition alive.

Patty

2025 Colorado and Wyoming Annual Conference

April 25 & 26

University of Wyoming, Laramie

Theme: Critical Issues Impacting Families and Communities

Although Colorado and Wyoming AAFCS Affiliate members have been holding their Annual Conference together for several years at a Colorado site, we are excited that Wyoming Affiliate members are hosting the 2025 Conference in Laramie.

Mark the dates on your calendar NOW!!! The Association Conferences used to meet Friday afternoon, evening and Saturday; but more recently it has been only on Saturday. The planning committee has chosen to go back to the earlier format for 2025.

There will be 2 events held Friday so plan to arrive by 2 pm. A Poverty Simulation Friday afternoon is an interactive process where participants will experience what

individuals in various situations encounter as they struggle with limited resources.

Friday evening will be dinner and guest speaker addressing a critical issue for families and communities, and a follow-up from the Poverty Simulation. A reaction panel with discuss take-away messages which attendees can use in their own work situation or with community organizations.

Saturday will feature presentations with the Critical Issues of Housing, Nutrition, and Financial Literacy. There will be Educational Posters and Exhibits, and time for networking with others at breaks and lunch. Association Awards will be presented at the Saturday Luncheon.

Full Conference Schedule and Registration will be distributed in January, and will also be on the CAFCS Website at that time. Mark April 25 & 26 on your calendars.

CAFCS Awards

CAFCS sponsors 3 awards to recognize members who have excelled as a Family and Consumer Professional.

Teacher of the Year recognizes a Colorado teacher for utilizing cutting-edge methods, techniques and activities to provide stimulus and visibility to family and consumer sciences education.

Marcile Wood Community Service Award is given to a Colorado member for providing outstanding leadership in community service.

CAFCS Professional of the Year is given to a member for significant contributions to the profession of Family and Consumer Sciences including leadership in professional or civic activities, support and mentoring of members, and promotion of FCS.

Applications for these Awards are attached to this newsletter email and can also be found on the CAFCS website. Deadline for Nominations is March 25. For any questions about the awards contact Executive Director Luann Boyer (luann.boyer@colostate.edu; 970-768-0322) Plan now to recognize your fellow CAFCS members for their outstanding work and support of the profession.

AAFCS Member Survey

By Jeanine Pope

Hopefully, most of our members completed the AAFCS Membership Survey recently conducted by AAFCS. Here is a summary of the results of the survey. I particularly paid attention to the section on how AAFCS could be a help to members. Here were the responses:

How can we help you more?

- ▶ Schools do not pay for national conferences anymore. Can you offer more online?
- ▶ More resources for retired members.
- ▶ Advocate for FCS.
- ▶ Guidance on accessing teacher resources.
- ▶ Promote AAFCS certifications. Too many non-FCS teachers are teaching FCS classes.
- ▶ Support for interior design programs
- ▶ Body of Knowledge – resources that can be used in the classroom
- ▶ Easier access to resources.
- ▶ Lesson plans and instructional materials.
- ▶ Mentorship programs.
- ▶ More networking opportunities.
- ▶ Affiliates offering more workshops in a range of topics.
- ▶ More ways to earn PDUs virtually
- ▶ Developing industry standards and best practices.
- ▶ Career coaching.

▶ Inform the membership on global trends in family and consumer sciences

Please let me know of any of the above suggestions would be helpful for CAFCS. We are always interested in ways we can provide better resources and opportunities for our members.

AAFCS Pilot Testing Opportunity

AAFCS is seeking volunteers to be **Pilot Testers** for the AAFCS Certification Exams.

The AAFCS Family & Consumer Sciences Credentialing Center is currently refreshing and revising the national certification exams associated with the Certified Family and Consumer Sciences (CFCS) program. The exams under revision include:

- Family and Consumer Sciences Composite
- Human Development and Family Science
- Hospitality, Nutrition and Food Science

Once the revisions are complete, the exams will undergo national pilot testing during January 2025.

Pilot testing will occur at computer-based testing centers across the United States. AAFCS is seeking volunteers who hold a minimum of a baccalaureate degree (or are within one year of graduation) to participate in pilot testing. AAFCS needs to have 100 Pilot Testers for each of the Assessment Exams. There is no cost to the individuals who are Pilot Testers. Details regarding pilot testing will be shared once the registration period opens with our testing vendor.

To learn more about this pilot testing opportunity, [CLICK HERE](#) and select Open Hyperlink to complete a brief interest survey or email certification@aaafcs.org for details.

2025 AAFCS Annual Conference Monday, June 23 -Saturday, June 28

The tentative schedule for the 2025 Conference in Kansas City, Missouri has been announced. Note the days of the week for the conference have changed from weekend format to Monday through Saturday. Here is a brief summary of the schedule:

- June 23: Leadership Academy
Lead FCS
- June 24: Educational Excursions
Certification Testing
Opening Reception – Evening
- June 25: Opening Session
Concurrent Workshops
Fun Night in Expo; State’s Night
- June 26: Educational Series
Apparel & Textiles Showcase
Research Posters
NCBDFCS Dinner
- June 27: Breakfast in Expo
General Session/Speaker
Closing Dinner/Reception
- June 28: Educational Excursions

Watch your email for additional details about and registration and hotel.

Family & Consumer Sciences: Overview of a 100-year-old Industry Sector

AAFCS recently announced its support for the recent publication of “Family and Consumer Sciences: Overview of a 100-year-old industry sector.” The document was published by the Alliance for Family and Consumer Sciences on September 24, 2024, and serves as a critical resource in understanding the unique industry sector, career pathway, and interdisciplinary field of study of Family and Consumer Sciences.

This 28-page document is an excellent history of Home Economics/Family and Consumer Sciences from a discipline which Ellen Swallow Richards first established as a discipline which focus on home and family and all aspects of life from inside the home, at work, and in communities. From the beginning of Home Economics, it has been grounded in a research-based body of knowledge.

To download a copy of “Family and Consumer Sciences: Overview of a 100-year-old industry sector,” click on this link: www.AAFCS.org/AllianceforFCS/Home

Make an Impact! Complete the FCS Industry Survey!

All Family and Consumer Science supporters are asked to participate in this important Survey. The Industry Survey will provide valuable insights to strengthen and elevate FCS work across the country!

Deadline to complete the Survey is 11:00 PM EST on January 27, 2024. To access the Survey, right click the link below and select Open Hyperlink.

[Take Now Here!](#)

CAFCS Website Update

Thanks to President Jeanine Pope who has assumed responsibility for the CAFCS website. She has updated the format and has included some exciting information posted as part of the AAFCS Advocacy Grant. Like most websites, it is a process in progress and you will see new focus on reaching not only our members, but others who are looking for Family and Consumer content.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

2025

March 21: World Home Economics Day
“Tackling Overconsumption”

March 22: IFHE-US Webinar
World Home Economics Day
12 Noon – Central Time
Tackling Overconsumption
Webinar Details in the
next CO/WY Newsletter

March 25: CAFCS Awards Due

April 25-26: CO/WY Annual Conference
University of Wyoming
Laramie

June 25-28: 2025 Annual Conference
Kansas City, Missouri

Newsletter Submissions

This newsletter is your newsletter. Members are encouraged to submit information about programs, conferences, member awards (include website links) as well as information on current FCS topics.

Written submissions should be in a WORD document attached to the email. Photos need to be saved as **jpeg** and attached to the email (don't put into the body of the email).

Email all submissions to CAFCS Executive Director at luann.boyer@colostate.edu



COLORADO/WYOMING NEWS

is a newsletter for members of the Colorado and Wyoming Affiliates of American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences.

Photos and articles from and about members are welcome.

Members are asked to keep email addresses updated with CAFCS so newsletters can be emailed. Send any contact updates, including address and email to the Editor listed below.

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The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with 6,000 members, dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families. The AAFCS and its affiliates may accept charitable contributions, which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.