

The FAN Letter

Florida Affiliate News



DR. SUZANNE WEST-PRESIDENT

A message from the President

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying a wonderful fall season. I am so grateful for each of you and for the continued dedication you bring to strengthening families, schools, and communities through Family & Consumer Sciences.

Although we were originally excited about the opportunity to hold a Tri-State Conference with Georgia and Alabama, plans have changed, and we will instead host a face-to-face conference right here in Florida! I am confident this will be an engaging and meaningful event that allows us to focus on our members, celebrate our accomplishments, and collaborate on future goals for FCS across the state. More details will be shared as plans develop, but please mark your calendars (once we confirm the date) and plan to join us!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Betty McQueen** for her diligent work and leadership in updating our association's bylaws. Her careful attention and commitment to accuracy have helped ensure that our organization remains strong, transparent, and aligned with our mission. The newly revised bylaws are attached in this newsletter for your review.

A very special thank you also goes to **Sue Sinclair** for her generous \$5,000 donation to the Florida Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. Her kindness and ongoing support make a meaningful difference and help us continue to invest in our members, programs, and the advancement of our field.

I am also delighted to welcome two new board members: **Niki Lockett**, who will serve as our **Vice President of Public Relations**, and **Linda Smock**, who will serve as our **Secretary**. Their enthusiasm, experience, and commitment to our mission will bring great energy and fresh perspectives to the board. We are so fortunate to have them join our leadership team.

Lastly, I am excited to invite members to join me for a book study in January on *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families* by Stephen R. Covey. This book offers timeless principles for strengthening family relationships and fostering balance and purpose, values that are at the very heart of FCS. If you are interested in participating, please email me directly, and I will share more information as we get closer to the start date. I look forward to meaningful discussions and connections after the busy holiday season. Thank you again for all that you do to make our profession vibrant and impactful. I am truly honored to serve as your president and to work alongside such dedicated colleagues.

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

—Jane Goodall

Dr. Suzanne West

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

DR. SUZANNE WEST

PRESIDENT ELECT

DONNA MCGREW

VP MEMBERSHIP

NANCY HAMILTON

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS

NIKI LOCKETT

SECRETARY

LINDA SMOCK

TREASURER

DAWN WILLIAMS

PAST

PRESIDENT/PARLIAMENTARIAN

ENID LAPHAM

NOMINATING CHAIR

RUTH GAINES

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DONNA MCGREW

In this newsletter you can expect:

AAFCS

Social Media

THE Project

Awards

Published
author

Mini Grants



Donna McGrew-
President Elect



Trisha Aldridge-
UF IFAS Extension Agent

Leadership Summit, Louisville, KY-September 26-29, 2025

By: Donna McGrew

Why did I attend the AAFCS Leadership Summit?

I wanted to connect with members from around the country, engage in discussions, learn best practices, new information, issues, trends, and develop AAFCS Staff connections.

I spent time networking and attending workshops and was able to experience everything!

While there, I think I met a kindred spirit! I shared accommodations at the Galt House with Dr. Natalie Knesek, an Extension Agent from Texas A&M AgriLife Lavaca County, Texas. Also, I met one of our new members, Trisha Aldridge, University of Florida IFAS Extension Collier County Family and Consumer Sciences Agent. She led a workshop entitled "Achieving Harmony: Work-Life Balance Through the Dimensions of the Wellness Wheel Model."



Social Media Chair
Samantha Kennedy

The new AAFCS microsite is now live.
The web address is:
<https://www.aafcs.org/florida/home>.

Also, there was a suggestion at the last meeting to have a photo archive. I can create that, too, but everyone needs to send me photos.

You can email them to me at
imacatlvr@gmail.com.



Join us in the heart of Louisville for the premier event in family and consumer sciences! The AAFCS is thrilled to host our 2026 Annual Conference at the iconic Galt House Hotel, where professionals, educators, students, and industry leaders will gather to connect, learn, and inspire.

Tracks

Through its educational sessions, AAFCS is on target to provide high quality professional development and networking opportunities in the following areas:

- Support and Resources for Emerging Professionals.
- Trends and Technology.
- Advocacy, Leadership, and Collaboration.
- Research and Scholarship.
- Tools for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access.

Join or Renew Today! See page 3



Join or Renew

The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences has been helping members grow personally and professionally since our founding in 1909 as the American Home Economics Association. Though our profession has expanded and evolved through the years, our mission remains.

ACCESS | BUILD | CONNECT | MAXIMIZE | NETWORK | READ | STAND UP | VALIDATE

MEMBER CATEGORY

Membership is valid for one year, at which time members will receive a renewal invitation. Privileges of all members include affiliate membership, engaging in groups of the Association, a subscription to the official publication, the *Journal of Family & Consumer Sciences*, and access to virtual professional development.

Membership Levels (select one below)

Professional

Members in the Professional category are individuals with a degree or professional-level credential who support the field of family & consumer sciences. Professional category members are eligible to hold elected office.

☐ **Introductory (Annual) \$100**
Special rate offered for the first year of Professional Membership

☐ **Renewal (Annual) \$150**

Emeritus \$100

☐ Members who meet the Professional category criteria who are retired and at least 60 years of age.

Student \$50

☐ Members in the Student category are enrolled as part-time or full-time degree or endorsement-seeking students in a postsecondary program, as confirmed by a completed Student Status Statement, below. Student category members are eligible to hold elected office.

Student Status Statement

I am currently enrolled as a student meeting the criteria above.

Full Name of School/ College/ University/ Institution (No Acronyms) _____

Membership Information

☐ **New Member**

☐ **Renewing Member: ID Number** _____

Full Name _____

Title/Occupation _____

Mailing Address _____

City | State | Zip | Country _____

Cell _____

Phone _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

PAYMENT AMOUNT

AAFCS Membership Dues \$ _____
Additional Options

☐ \$45 FCS Research Journal Subscription (Online)

☐ Donation to the Annual Fund* \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____
(AAFCS dues + optional fees)

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check # _____ ☐ PO # _____

Membership will be active upon payment of purchase order.

Payment mailing: PO Box 79377 | Baltimore, MD 21279-0377

AAFCS accepts AmEx, Discover,
MasterCard and Visa payments
online scan here →



INVEST IN YOURSELF AND THE PROFESSION | JOIN TODAY!

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

703.706.4600 / 800.424.8080

Membership@aafcs.org

*AAFCS is a 501(c-3) not-for-profit organization. Contributions beyond basic dues are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

SkillsUSA Students Serve with Purpose “THE Project”



Tiffany Camacho Region 2 Chair

At the Jacobson Culinary Arts Academy, service and leadership go hand-in-hand. This year, three SkillsUSA students Kiran Potts, Tarren O'Neal, and Tristyn Fickes organized a community service project that brought the academy together to prepare and serve a hot meal for families in need at The Union Academy Family Center in Tarpon Springs.



The FAFCS grant specifically covered the food costs and serving plates, making the event possible. While the three students coordinated the event, the entire academy worked together to prep the food, demonstrating teamwork and professionalism.



Thanks to both in-school funds and a \$250 grant from the Florida Affiliate of Family & Consumer Sciences (FAFCS), students created a menu of Baked Ziti, Glazed Carrots, Garlic Focaccia Bread, and Sea Salt Caramel Ice Cream, served with water and fruit punch.

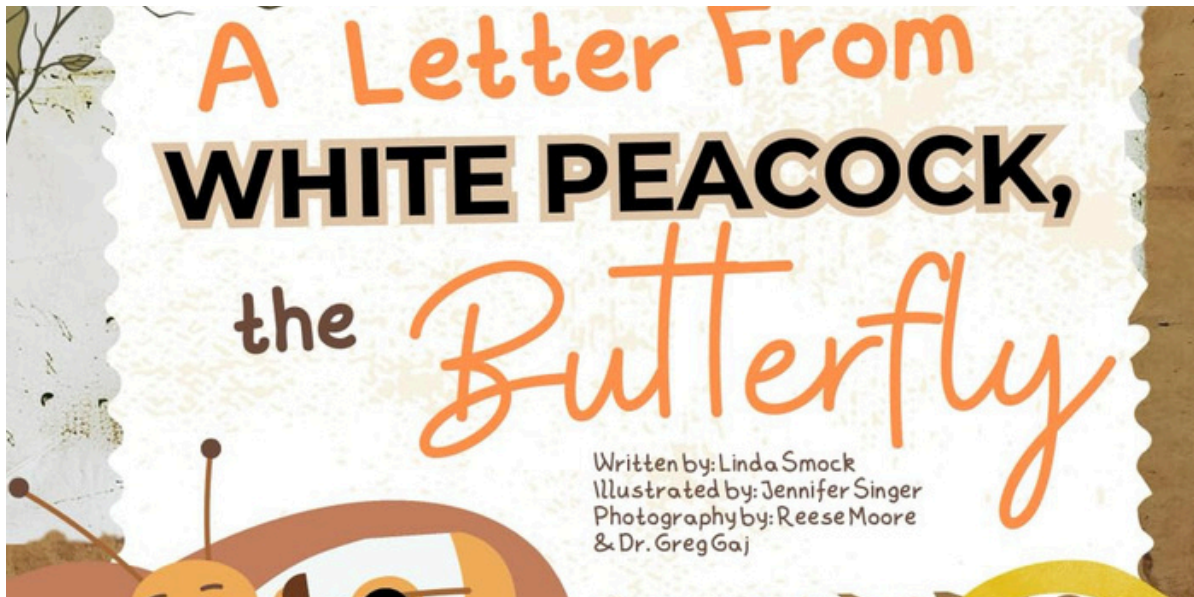


The project served about 60 community members along with 20 students from the Be the Change program, with leftovers donated to Union Academy for additional families. This initiative exemplified the purpose of SkillsUSA's Community Service competition: to evaluate chapter activities that benefit the community, to recognize excellence and professionalism in service, and to highlight the outstanding work of career and technical education students.



Presented at the SkillsUSA competition in Jacksonville, the project earned 1st Place, a recognition that reflects both the quality of the work and the compassion behind it. We are grateful to FAFCS for their support, which helped make this success possible.





FAFCS Member Release Two Children's Books

FAFCS member Linda Smock has written and released two new children's books, *A Letter from White Peacock the Butterfly* and *Betsy the Brazilian Bat*. Both books follow the pattern of her previous three children's books as scientific personifications. *A Letter from White Peacock the Butterfly* was released on June 26, 2025, and helps readers of all ages understand the importance of native plants to the life cycles of butterflies and other insects. It also shows the life cycle of the butterfly, providing elementary teachers with a resource for teaching the transformation process. Photography and artwork help bring the story to life for students. The book is written in the style of a letter from the butterfly to the child reader and concludes with an encouragement for the child to write her back in a safe way with adult approval.

Smock often suggests that we "don't judge a butterfly by its color" and thus put more emphasis on one species such as the monarch than on other species, for all are important to the environment and ecology.



Betsy the Brazilian Bat was released on September 1, 2025, and is available for fall and Halloween activities. It is the first of two books about bats, a keystone species, essential for the health of the environment. Betsy plays hide and seek with the children while teaching them important facts and introducing scientific terms.

Smock is a retired public-school teacher and supervisor of Family and Consumer Sciences, as well as a private school principal. She serves as a Master Gardener Volunteer for Pinellas County and is willing to speak for FAFCS groups in central and northwest Florida about topics including the topics of her books such as honeybees, publishing, thriving with cancer, and native Florida gardening and ethnobotany (how native Americans and early settlers used native plants as food and medication).

Other books that Smock has published include *Just Call Me Honey*, *Black-eyed Susan and Friends*, and *GT the Gopher Tortoise*. She also has five devotional books: *Homespun Devotion*, *More Homespun Devotion*, *Even More Homespun Devotion*, *Homespun Prayers*, and *Homespun Gratitude*.

Books are available through websites of Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Walmart. Pinellas County locations of Barnes & Noble also carry them as well as multiple gift shops, independent bookstores, nature stores, and plant nurseries.

For more information, check Linda's website, www.authorlindasmock.com or contact her at authorlindasmock@gmail.com.



2025-2026 Awards

New Achiever Award recognizes our emerging professionals under the age of 35.

Extension Excellence Award recognizes member Extension Agents who have demonstrated excellence in the profession.

Leader of the Year recognizes our professionals who have demonstrated leadership in the profession.

Teacher of the Year recognizes member teachers who have demonstrated excellence in the profession.

These awards are eligible for submission to the AAFCS Awards program.

Go to <https://www.aafcs.org/resources/awards-and-grants> to learn more.

Kindred Spirit Award recognizes non-members who have greatly contributed to AAFCS goals and is unique to Florida.

Submit application (page 8) to Trisha Alridge by mail or email by January 31, 2026.

Development Fund Donations!

Donations contribute to mini grants and other professional development projects FAFCS would like to do. A third is sent to AAFCS to support their development fund. Thank you to everyone for their generous donations to the Development Fund. Your generosity and support are appreciated. Checks to “FAFCS” may be sent to Dawn Williams at:

2019 Utopian Dr. W. #208 Clearwater, FL
33763

Congratulations to recipient Chef Tiffany Camacho who said, “We are grateful for FAFCS’s support in helping us create an opportunity for our students to serve families in need, showcase professionalism, and demonstrate the impact of career and technical education.”

Mini-Grants Opportunity!

See a need and/or have a project idea for your community, school, or the world at large? Bring your idea to reality with the help of a mini grant.

Deadline: December 1, 2025

Email Completed Entries to:

goolsbyep@pcsb.org

Paulette Goolsby, Development Chair

See pages 8-10 for application



Continue on page 6

MINI-GRANTS PURPOSE

The purpose of the Florida Association of Family Consumer Sciences (FAFCS) mini-grant educational program is to reward FAFCS members by funding their creative and innovative educational projects to enrich a Family and Consumer Sciences educational opportunity for students, consumers, or community/ business leaders' involvement in FCS activities. Project may occur during the fiscal year (June 1 - May 31) and extension of project granted based on project scope.

GRANT AWARDS

Grants may vary in amount, depending on the nature of the project, with each project grant limited to a maximum of \$250.00. FAFCS members may submit more than one grant application, but each application must reflect a different project.

Grant recipients will be notified by December 12, 2025. Based on availability of funds, additional grant applications may be accepted, and notification of another application period will be announced.

ELIGIBILITY

Any active FAFCS member is eligible to apply for a mini grant.

GUIDELINES

FAFCS mini grant projects show creativity and innovation and must directly involve students, consumers, and/or community leaders.

Grants may be used to compensate experts who come to work with student/ community; paid experts are not considered business partners.

- 1) Report presented at the annual FAFCS meeting or alternate method.
- 2) Projects are encouraged to be completed by May 2. Extensions granted.
- 3) Members awarded grants must submit expense reports and final reports, including project evaluation by May 2, exemptions are on a case-by-case basis.
- 4) Mini grant recipients are expected to present at an annual State Conference or alternate method, if recipient is unable to attend the State Conference.

GRANT EVALUATION

Grant applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the FAFCS Development Committee.

The persons evaluating the grants may not be familiar with educational jargon or terminology, therefore, briefly explain educational terms used in your application to help grant readers understand the purpose of the program or target population.



Florida Affiliate

AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

(Check Category Below)

____ Teacher of the Year

____ New Achiever

____ Leader of the Year

____ Extension Excellence

____ Kindred Spirit Award

____ Business Professional

Nominating group/person _____

Contact Information:

Name

Address

Telephone

AAFCS Membership Number _____

Nominee

Name

Address

Telephone

AAFCS Membership Number

Attach a statement about the nominee describing, "What makes this individual outstanding?"

The statement should be no more than 500 words.

Submit to Awards Chair

Trisha Aldridge

UF/IFAS Collier County Extension
14700 Immokalee Rd.
Naples, FL 34120
(239) 252-4800
trishaa@ufl.edu

DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2026

Note: If more than one nomination is received for the same award, additional information may be required from the nominee. Recipients in each category must have not previously won in the last 5 years.

FAFCS Development Mini-Grant Application

All five of the sections below must be completed to be considered:

Project Subject Area: _____

Project Title: _____

Grant Request Amount (must match Total Budgeted amount on #3 below): _____

How many students or community persons will be involved? Give specific number. _____

Grade level(s) if students are involved. (If none, put "N/A") _____

In order to ensure impartiality, do not use your name or business in your project description. Use of your name or business may disqualify your grant application.

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Give a brief overall description of the project to be used for publication purposes. Description must be understandable to lay person.

Why is this project needed?

What will you do to address this need? **(Please note:** We are looking for creative, innovative and collaborative projects).

2. BUSINESS/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP:

Business or Community Group(s) Name: _____

Explain the involvement. _____

3. PROJECT BUDGET:

[illegible]

4. RESULTS AND EVALUATION:

How will you evaluate the success of your project? Please be specific. (If awarded a grant, this evaluation must be implemented and it should be included, along with your project description, budget and actual expenses, summary of results, and receipts.)

[illegible]

5. REQUIREMENT:Email this Original Application by December 1, 2025 to:

Paulette Goolsby, Development Chair goolsbye@pcsb.org

FAFCS MINI-GRANT APPLICATION

Deadline December 1, 2025

Notification of winners by December 12, 2025

Implementation completed, and all documents submitted by May 2, 2026

Note: If a team of FCS professionals is applying, please designate a coordinator who will be responsible for all reports and the completion of the following form. This person must be an active member of FAFCS.

Applicant/Coordinator Name _____

School or Business Affiliation _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # _____ Fax _____ E-mail Address _____

Project Title _____

I certify that additional funding is needed for the material and/or equipment requested, for my classroom or office. I also acknowledge that if I am a mini-grant recipient, I agree to present at the Annual State Conference or by an alternate method, if I am unable to attend the State Conference.

Applicant/Coordinator's Signature _____ Date _____

List the other team member's names and addresses below.

Team Member _____ Address _____ Telephone # _____

Team Member _____ Address _____ Telephone # _____

Team Member _____ Address _____ Telephone # _____

Team Member _____ Address _____ Telephone # _____

Board of Directors

President

Dr. Suzanne West
gatorsuzieq@yahoo.com

President Elect

Donna McGrew
dodaenterprises@juno.com
donna.l.mcgregw@gmail.com

Vice President Membership

Nancy Hamilton, CFCs
Nancyh3@comcast.net

Vice President Public Relations

Niki Lockett
Niki.lockett@hcps.net

Secretary

Linda Smock
Lindasmock2024@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dawn Williams, CFCs
dkgfamily@yahoo.com
WILLIAMSDAWN@pcsb.org

Past President\Parliamentarian

Enid Lapham
emlapham@comcast.net
enidgl@gmail.com

Nominating Committee Chair

Ruth Gaines
rrgaines@att.net

Administrative Assistant

Donna McGrew

Awards Chair Trisha Aldridge trishaa@ufl.edu	Development Chair Paulette Goolsby goolsbyep@gmail.com	Scholarship Chair Dr. Ginger Phillips gphillips@ardensolutions.com
International Chair Joyce Cotner, CFCs joys4joyce@comcast.net	Social Media Chair Samantha Kennedy imacatlvr@gmail.com	Region 1 Chair Diann Douglas ddoug@embarqmail.com
Region 2 Chair Tiffany Camacho tiffanymancho@icloud.com	Region 3 Chair Vacant	Nominating Committee Betty McQueen mcqueenbm@aol.com

Thank you for reading!

Submit articles for the Winter Edition by January 31, 2026

Email: niki.lockett@hcps.net

APPROVED 2025

Name Change 1994 Prior

Revision 2003

Prior Revision 2005

Prior Revision 2006

Prior Revision 2012

Prior Revision 2014

Prior Revision 2018

Prior Revision 2022

**BYLAWS
OF THE
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION of
FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCES**

**Article I
NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, hereafter referred to as FAFCS. also known as **Florida Affiliate of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences**

Article II

PURPOSES, MISSION, AND DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

Section 1. The purposes of FAFCS shall be the same as those of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (hereafter referred to as AAFCS) as stated in its bylaws. **Section 2.** The purposes of the Association are (1) to further improve and strengthen education and science in family and consumer sciences, (2) to encourage and promote full and fair explanation of pertinent facts affecting family and consumer sciences, and (3) to promote liaison and other

cooperative activity with groups having related concern as family and consumer sciences.

Section 3. The mission of the Association is to provide leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, resources to achieve optimal quality of life.

Section 4. The Association celebrates, embraces, and respects the value of every person. Our commitment to diversity, equality, inclusion, and social justice is demonstrated through our work to improve the well-being and quality of life for individuals, families, and communities.

Article III

AFFILIATION

The Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences is the Florida Affiliate of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Article IV

OFFICERS, STAFF AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The officers of the Association, who shall be active members, shall consist of a president, president-elect, and vice-president for membership, vice-president for public relations, secretary, treasurer, nominating committee, and past-president/parliamentarian. The staff shall consist of the Administrative Assistant an AAFCS member, who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Election of officers of the Association shall be by ballot (mail or other technology-assisted options) as prepared by the Nominating Committee. Ballots shall be distributed to all individual members, with the exception of reserve, student, and honorary members, at least thirty days before the annual conference. Ballots must be returned to the chair of the Nominating Committee in time to be tabulated prior to the Annual Conference.

Section 3. Elections in even numbered years will be for vice-president for membership, vice- president for public relations, and two members of the Nominating Committee. Elections in odd numbered years will be for treasurer, secretary and one member of the Nominating Committee. The president-elect shall be elected annually.

Section 4. Candidates for offices shall be chosen in such manner as to assure geographic representation of the state of Florida, of the family and consumer sciences subject matter areas, and of the professional groups. To be eligible for nomination to an office, an individual must be currently a member in good standing (dues current) *of AAFCS*. Nominees for president-elect shall have served in a leadership role in some capacity as stated in the mission statement, FAFCS Bylaws **Article II, Section 3**: “The mission of the Association is to provide leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, resources to achieve optimal quality of life.”

Consent of all nominees shall be secured before placing their name on the ballot.

Section 5. Elections shall be by a majority of votes cast.

Article V

FUNCTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICERS AND STAFF

Section 1. The functions of the elected officers of the Association are as defined below:

(a) The president shall be the executive officer of the association, shall preside at meetings of the state association, shall chair the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and shall serve as a voting member of the Leadership Council or shall appoint another member to attend and serve in their absence. The president shall appoint members as

chairs of committees with the approval of the Executive Committee, and shall approve expenditures differing from the approved budget. The president shall send an annual report to AAFCS. The president shall appoint members to fill unexpired terms in case of vacancies in elective offices with the exception of the president-elect who shall be elected by the Board of Directors. The president shall be responsible for representing or for providing for official representation of FAFCS at state, regional, or national meetings when needed, and shall participate at meetings where FAFCS should be represented.

(b) The president-elect shall become familiar with the workings of the Association in preparation for assuming the duties of the president for the following year, and shall serve as a voting member of the AAFCS Leadership Council or the president shall appoint another member to attend and serve in their absence. The president-elect shall attend AAFCS workshops for state presidents and president-elects. The president-elect shall serve as the liaison to the districts coordinating the annual conference. The president-elect shall perform all duties of the president during the president’s absence or disability or in event of resignation.

(c) The vice presidents shall be:

(1) The vice-president for membership shall prepare and distribute *monthly* membership reports and AAFCS printouts to the district chairs and upon request to all individuals, the official applications for admission to AAFCS membership; and shall serve as chair of the Membership Committee.

(2) The vice-president for public relations shall chair the Public Relations Committee and shall serve as the newsletter editor preparing three (3) issues per year of The Fan Letter (Florida Affiliate News), official publication of FAFCS, with assistance from administrative assistant; plan and coordinate efforts to expand and improve public knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the family and consumer sciences profession; communicate with districts regarding the AAFCS and FAFCS public relations program(s); compile

and submit information to AAFCS to update the website.

(d) The secretary shall take minutes of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and of all business sessions of the Association, and will submit such minutes to Executive Committee and Board members within four (4) weeks after each meeting respectively.

(e) The treasurer shall keep accurate records of income and disbursements, shall prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board of Directors at the spring meeting and shall submit records to be reviewed annually. The financial review at the end of the fiscal year will be internal, by a committee of two persons appointed by the president. All yearly financial reviews must be included and submitted in the annual treasurer's report

(f) The past president shall serve on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, shall have responsibility for the collection and arrange for deposit of archive materials. The past president shall also serve as *parliamentarian* and shall be acquainted with the proceedings outlined in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* and shall see that the business of the Association is conducted according to these rules; shall assure compliance with the Bylaws of FAFCS and AAFCS; shall chair the Policy Handbook Committee, and shall serve as chair of the Bylaws Committee.

(g) The chair of the Nominating Committee shall serve on the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The functions of the Administrative Assistant of the Association are as defined below:

(a) The Administrative Assistant shall be the administrative liaison between the president, the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and the general membership; and shall provide for the continuity of the Association at state and national levels. The Administrative Assistant shall be a member, without vote, of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Should the office of executive director become vacant; the Executive

Committee shall designate an interim Administrative Assistant until the position is filled.

(b) The Administrative Assistant shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Association under the direction of the president; shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee and the Annual Conference Committee; shall assist with the publication and distribution of the newsletter; and shall attend other meetings as designated by the president and the Executive Committee.

(c) The Administrative Assistant shall provide a permanent address for the Association. If position is not currently filled, the president shall provide permanent address.

Section 3. The terms of office shall be one year for the president, president-elect, and past president. All other elected officers shall serve for two years.

ARTICLE VI **GOVERNING BOARDS**

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers (President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-Presidents for Membership and Public Relations, Secretary, Treasurer, Nominating Committee Chair and Administrative Assistant (an ex-officio member without vote) The Executive Committee will administer the business of the Association. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least two times per year. Meetings may be held on the call of the president. One half of the voting members shall constitute a quorum (***four***). Not fulfilling the obligations of office is cause for removal from office. See ***Removal from Office*** procedures in Handbook.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee, nominating committee, standing committee chairs, community chair(s), region chairs, and liaisons to AAFCS. The Board of

Directors shall act as policy making body and recommend action to the business session of all meetings of the Association. The Board of Directors shall meet upon call of the president, or at the request of a majority of members of the Board of Directors. A minimum of **six (6)** members from the Board of Directors present at meeting will constitute a quorum.

Section 3. The Assembly shall consist of the Board of Directors and the membership of the Association. The Assembly shall meet at the annual conference. A majority of members present shall constitute a quorum. The Assembly shall receive reports from the Nominating Committee, officers and other committee chairs; shall adopt resolutions; and advise the senators to the Annual Conference of AAFCS.

Article VII **MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1. Membership requirements will be the same as those stated in the Bylaws of AAFCS.

Section 2. Members shall pay annual dues as designated in the Bylaws of AAFCS.

Article VIII **COMMITTEES**

The standing committees shall include the following: Annual Conference, Awards, Bylaws / Handbook, Development, Finance, Nominating, and Scholarship.

(1) **Annual Conference Committee** shall consist of a Chair or Co-Chairs and a Finance chair. This committee will plan and execute a spring conference. The Chair(s) will work closely with the president and present plans for the annual conference to the Executive Committee for approval.

(2) **Awards Committee** shall consist of the previous and current chairs and additional members, as needed. They shall prepare, distribute, and act upon

application for the awards of the association.

(3) **Bylaws /Handbook Committee** shall be chaired by the past president. The duties of the committee shall be to receive and propose amendments to the Bylaws with the Board of Directors approval.

(4) **Development Committee** shall maintain contact with the region chairpersons. They shall communicate AAFCS Development activities to the membership and shall develop and carry out plans for contributions for development. They shall prepare and forward **mini-grant** applications and communicate with **showcase carousel** chair of the annual conference.

(5) **Finance Committee** shall consist of the president, president-elect and treasurer, who will serve as chair. The duties are to review expenditures and prepare an annual budget, which is submitted to the Board of Directors for approval at the fall meeting, and make recommendations on the investment of funds.

(6) **Nominating Committee** shall prepare and distribute to all active members a ballot consisting of at least one name for each office to be filled; receive and tally ballots; notify candidates of their election to office with installation to occur at annual conference; and report the results to the Assembly.

(7) **Scholarship Committee** shall consist of the chair and additional members, as needed. They shall publicize, receive, and review applications for the undergraduate and graduate scholarship(s), conference scholarship for members (CSM) and recommend recipients to the Board of Directors.

Article IX

REGION ASSOCIATIONS

Section 1. The Association shall be organized into regions of the state as determined by the Board of Directors. The purposes of the region organization and requirements for membership shall be the same as for FAFCS and AAFCS.

Section 2. The Board of Directors may re-define the geographic boundaries from time to time when such action would facilitate the work of the regions or the Association.

Section 3. Regions shall present a written report to the president and an oral report to the Assembly at the Annual Conference.

Section 4. The regions shall be defined by the following geographic county boundaries:

Region 1: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin, Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Columbia, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Gilchrist, Union, Bradford, Alachua, Levy, Putnam, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Baker, Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Holmes, Jackson, Washington, Bay, Calhoun, Gulf.

Region 2: Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, Desoto, Highlands, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee.

Region 3: Volusia, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Brevard, Flagler, Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe.

Article X

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the Assembly of the Annual Conference or by a majority of votes cast by ballot provided that notice of the proposed amendment(s) is distributed to all members at least one month prior to the date set for counting such votes.

Section 2. The Bylaws may be automatically changed to follow the AAFCS bylaws without the vote of the FAFCS members.

Article XI

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall be June 1 to May 31 of each year.

Article XII **MEETINGS**

There shall be an Annual Conference of the Association. In the event of an emergency the Board of Directors can cancel the Annual Conference.

Article XIII

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Except as otherwise provided in its Bylaws and Standing Rules, the Association shall be governed in its proceedings by the current edition of **Robert's Rules of Order**.

Article XIV

DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution or termination of the Association, the Executive Committee shall, after the payment of all of the liabilities of the Association, dispose of all of the assets of the Association exclusively for the objectives of the Association, in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the Executive Committee shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court of proper jurisdiction, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said court shall determine which are organized and operated for such purposes.

Article XV **TAX-EXEMPT STATUS**

Section 1. The Association is a non-stock and non-profit corporation. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its officers or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized or empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution to further the objectives set forth in Article III of the Articles of Incorporation of AAFCS.

No substantial part of the activities of the

Association shall be invested in carrying on propaganda, or lobbying to influence legislation.

The Association shall not participate in, or intervene in, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any of the provisions in the

Articles of Incorporation, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on: (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provisions of any future United States internal revenue law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provisions of any future United States internal revenue law).

Section 2. If in any one year the Association is found to be a private foundation, then, and in that event, its income for each taxable year shall be distributed at such time and in such a manner as to not subject the foundation to tax under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code. The foundation shall not engage in any act of self-dealing (as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code), shall not retain any excess business holdings (as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code), shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject the foundation to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code, and shall not make any taxable expenditures (as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code).